

ELECTIONS OF 1916

THE
GOUIN
GOVERNMENT
AND
ITS WORKS

TEN YEARS OF PROGRESS AND
SOUND ADMINISTRATION



QUEBEC, 1916





ELECTIONS OF 1916

**THE
GOUIN
GOVERNMENT
AND
ITS WORKS**

**ELEVEN YEARS OF PROGRESS AND
SOUND ADMINISTRATION**



QUEBEC, 1916

F1053.G6

ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THIS PAMPHLET.

- Art. Article.
- P. A. Public Accounts of the Province of Quebec.
- J. Journals of the Quebec Legislative Assembly.
- V. P. Votes and Proceedings of the Quebec Legislative
Assembly.
- M. R. Minister's Report.
- R. S. Revised Statutes, 1909.

ELECTION OF 1916

REASONS FOR THE DISSOLUTION

Article 115 of the Revised Statutes enacts as follows:

"Every Legislative Assembly shall continue for five years from the day of the return of the writs for the general election of members; but the Lieutenant Governor has always the right of dissolving it sooner if he thinks fit."

As the writs for the last general election were returned in June, 1912, the Legislature might therefore continue until June, 1917, but the Lieutenant Governor has otherwise decided and dissolved the houses.

For what reasons?

Because the time had come to submit for the approval of the electors the results of the policy adopted by the Government, in 1912, relating to the improvement of roads; because it was desirable to find out if the people are of opinion that the same policy be continued and also that relating to the important measures lately adopted by the Government, namely, the storing of waters in the principal rivers of the Province, public instruction, colonization, agriculture, etc. Certain Conservatives have pretended that the Gouin Government has no longer the confidence of the electors. The only way to find out if such was the case was to make an appeal to the people.

It will not be amiss to here recall that from 1867 to 1881, the members were elected for four years. It was the Chapleau Government, which, during the session of 1881, caused the term of the Legislature to be extended to five years. The Liberals opposed this change in the law as contrary to the principles which they held and which they regarded as imposing upon them the duty of keeping close to the people and in constant touch with public opinion; and it is notable that the Liberal

governments, although they did not reduce the term of the Legislature to four years, have never availed themselves of the amendment of 1881.

As a matter of fact, the Legislature has been dissolved nine times since 7th November, 1881: 1. On 9th September, 1886, under the Ross Government; 2. On 10th May, 1890 under the Mercier Government; 3. On 22nd December, 1891, under the de Boucherville Government; 4. On 6th March, 1897, under the Flynn Government; 5. On 14th November, 1900, under the Parent Government; 6. On 4th November, 1904, under the same Government; 7. On 6th May, 1908, under the Gouin Government; 8. On 15th April, 1912, under the same Government and 9. on the 13th April, 1916. Thus, as will be seen, the Legislatures, under the Liberal Governments, have never lasted more than four years, while under Conservative Governments, they extended to almost five years, except, however, the case of 1891, when the de Boucherville Government, confronted with a hostile majority in the House, had to appeal to the people on the day following its coming into power. These facts show that while, on the one hand, the Conservatives cling to power above all, since they endeavor to keep their grip on it as long as possible, the Liberals, on the other, look rather to the general interest, seeing that they do not fear to consult public opinion before the expiration of their mandate.

THE QUESTION BEFORE THE ELECTORS

In a few days, the electors of this province will be called upon to chose the members who will represent them in the Legislative Assembly and, during the next Legislature; the majority of these members will have absolute control of our provincial destinies, for, according to the constitution under which we live, those only can govern who have the support of the majority.

Now, as every one knows, the two political organizations, contending for power at Quebec, have as their leaders, the one Sir Lomer Gouin and the other, Mr. Philemon Cousineau.

The ultimate question therefore before the electors of each county is whether it is preferable to elect a member who will

support the Gouin Government or to vote for a candidate who will support a Ministry presided over by the actual leader of the Opposition, Mr. Philemon Cousineau.

THE LEADERS OF BOTH PARTIES

During the last few years the opposition has deemed proper to change leaders several times: From Mr. Bourassa in 1908, who suddenly parted company with his allies and disdainfully told them that he was wasting his time; then Mr. Tellier disheartened with several unsuccessful electoral campaigns and without serious grievance against the Gouin Government abandoned the leadership and at the same time expressed the desire to return to private life; death claimed Mr. Prevost, and Mr. Patenaude was called by Mr. Borden to go and sit in the company of Mr. Blondin, the man who wanted to shoot holes in the British flag to better breathe the free air of liberty.

As a last resort and without choice Mr. Cousineau was entrusted with the leadership of the opposition, and what a leader! The laughing stock of the leading members of his own party he exercises but little control over it.

So far he has failed to show that he is endowed with an atom of administrative capacity, and his ideas are as retrogressive as his speech is bitter and virulent. He has fully shown his retrogressive ideas by his reactionary attitude taken on the question of technical schools, and the schools of Higher Commercial Studies. Every day he gives further proof of his sourness of spirits; never has he made a speech without resorting to personalities and reviling his adversaries.

Mr. Cousineau is only a new-comer in the political arena, but his pirouettes and inconsistencies are numberless; he is a past master in the art of changing attitude; Conservative, to-day; Nationalist, to-morrow. Does he know what he is? If he is no longer a Nationalist, a Nationalist he certainly was and here is the proof.

At a meeting held at St. Laurent on the 21st February, 1909, Mr. Cousineau launched forth, with great success, as the newspapers of that date relate, that famous phrase "The marriage of the Conservatives with the Nationalists".

His affirmations were so precise that "La Patrie" declared

in an editorial that no doubt existed on the stand they (Messrs. Cousineau and Patenaude) would take at Quebec. They will fight at the side of *Bourassa* and will follow *his flag*. Speaking of the Nationalist leader, Mr. Cousineau said (see *L'Action Sociale*) that he was a benefactor to our country and consequently should be followed.

At the beginning of the session of 1916 Mr. Cousineau, full of imperialistic zeal, thought fit to reproach the Gouin Government with not doing sufficient to aid the Empire in the present war.

As early as 1910, at a banquet given at Toronto by the late Sir James Whitney, the Honourable Mr. Taschereau had declared that the day England would be in danger the French Canadians would be the first to fly to her aid. At the following session, the Conservative Opposition presented a motion censuring the Minister of Public Works for the above utterances, without mandate, in the name of the Province. With Messrs. Bourassa, Lavergne and Prevost, Mr. Cousineau voted in favor of that motion. Loyalist, to-day, Mr. Cousineau forgets what he was yesterday. His former mates have not forgotten him. It will be his punishment.

SIR LOMER GOUIN

Sir Lomer Gouin has been a member of the Legislative Assembly since 1897; He was Minister of Public Works, then Minister of Colonization from the 3rd October, 1900 to the 4th February, 1905, and has been Prime Minister and Attorney-General since the 23rd March, 1905; which is a sufficient guarantee that he is thoroughly familiar with the general administration of the affairs of the Province.

It is true that Sir Lomer Gouin has been a minister and even Prime Minister longer than any one in the Province who has been called to preside over one department of the Government. But the shareholders or associates of a financial institution do not dismiss their manager; an employer does not discharge his employee for the sole reason that that manager or employee has faithfully served them for seven, eight or even twelve years. And why should it be otherwise when the administration of the Province is at stake.

Moreover Sir Lomer Gouin has been a model Prime Minister and his passage to power will be epoch making in the history of the country for none of his predecessors have done so much for the progress and welfare of the Province of Quebec.

A capable and upright politician he has given this Province an administration which even his adversaries are pleased to cite as an example to our sister-provinces. A shrewd and prudent administrator, he has inaugurated a series of reforms which will soon place this Province in a leading position in the pacific struggle waged between the various provinces, a fluent and vigorous speaker, he has been an honour to this country wherever he has represented us: the Normand festivities, interprovincial conferences, as well as in religious or national celebrations.

"Sir Lomer Gouin has been a good Prime Minister and the Province will progress under his continued rule."

(The *Star*, May 16th, 1912.)

"Sir Lomer who presently directs the destinies of the Province is at the front rank among the leaders of our race. Eminent advocate, a scholar, he came to power in 1905 and since, he has had but three things in view; to render our Province larger, richer and happier. He has shown himself to be endowed with rare business capacity, a quality not expected in a lawyer or scholar.

When Sir Lomer Gouin was made a Doctor in Law of the Toronto University, "L'Evenement" said amongst other things:

The honor which the Toronto University has conferred on the Prime Minister of the Province of Quebec, is doubly deserved. If we consider this distinction either in the light of the personal merit of Mr. Gouin or in his official capacity as head of the Government, it is but right to acknowledge that this title of Doctor in Law is fittingly granted. Before being a successful politician he was a distinguished lawyer and his law experience has certainly been of great use to him on many occasions since entering public life.

"The fact that Sir Lomer Gouin's name is included in the list of the King's birthday honors is not a thing that any fair

minded man of whatever party he may be, will find an occasion for dispute. It is a tribute to the ability of Sir Lomer himself.

"It must be admitted that the Province of Quebec has by no means stood still during the Gouin regime and that the latter has been responsible for much that is good and stable. There have, of course, been mistakes and acts that were decidedly open to criticism. But, on the whole, the affairs of the Province might have been in worse hands than they have been since the present Premier's accession to office."

(The Quebec Chronicle, June 4th, 1913).

PROGRAMME OF THE DEBOUCHERVILLE, TAILLON AND FLYNN GOVERNMENTS

As Mr. Cousineau and his lieutenants have always been faithful partisans of the DeBoucherville, Taillon and Flynn Governments, and never miss an opportunity to praise and extol the nefarious period from 1892 to 97, as a great number of their political speeches indicate, it is in order to recall what those Governments were, what promises they made and what results they achieved."

From all their statements it results that the de Boucherville, Taillon and Flynn Governments were:—

1. Not to increase the debt;
2. Not to impose fresh taxes;
3. Not to contract loans;
4. To have it enacted that no permanent loan could be contracted without the approval of the people expressed by a plebiscite;
5. To fix, by statute, the amount of the temporary loans that could be contracted during a Parliament;
6. To forbid, by law, the use of letters of credit;
7. To have it enacted that the Government should not use trust funds;
8. To restore equilibrium in the finances;
9. To practise economy;
10. To reduce the expenditure of 1890 by \$500,000.00 in a few years;

11. To fill vacancies occurring in the public service only when necessary;

12. To grant no fresh subsidies to railway undertakings; to revive no lapsed subsidies and to refuse to transfer subsidies already voted from one undertaking to another.

Now, as we will show further on, all these promises were broken, shamefully broken. The Conservative leaders seem truly to have striven to do the exact opposite to what they had promised.

PROGRAMME OF THE GOUIN GOVERNMENT

Sir Lomer Gouin has been Prime Minister of the Province of Quebec since 23rd March, 1905.

On 5th April, 1905, in speech which he delivered at the Montcalm School, Montreal, he traced the programme which his government intended to follow.

This programme was an amplification of the late Hon. Marchand's and may be summed up as follows:

- Equilibrium in the finances;
- Economy in expenditure;
- Vigilance in the collection of revenue;

Increase of receipts by the imposition of a tax on stock exchange transactions, by vigilant administration of public domain, and by the readjustment of the Federal subsidy.

Division of the duties of the Minister of Lands, Mines and Fisheries ;

- Development of primary education ;
- Foundation of new normal schools ;
- Encouraging the raising of teachers' salaries ;
- Establishment of technical schools ;
- Establishment of schools for higher commercial studies ;
- Development of agricultural instruction ;
- Improvement of rural roads ;
- Encouragement of colonization ;
- Creation of new colonization reserves ;
- Aid to colonization railways ;

Protection of workmen in factories ;
The passing of an act respecting accidents to workmen ;
Respect for autonomy of municipalities.

That programme was received with the liveliest sympathy by the whole Province.

Next day "*La Patrie*," then edited by the late Mr. J. L. Tarte, said :

" These reforms are numerous—perhaps too numerous for the Government ever to accomplish one-half of them. But they reveal a serious study of the needs of the province, and they all merit discussion. They cover the whole field of provincial administration, public instruction, agriculture, colonization, finance, etc."

And the *Montreal Gazette*, a conservative paper :

" Altogether, Mr. Gouin's programme is satisfactory. If he carries it out the province will have no reason to regret that he has been called to guide its destinies."

In "*Le Nationaliste*," of 9th April, 1905, Mr. Olivar Asselin wrote under the heading of "A Triumph for the Nationalist idea":

" We must recognize the fact that in his programme-speech, Mr. Gouin has cut out for himself fine and good work. As long as he adheres to this, he will have the loyal support of a man who was sometimes severe towards him during the last crisis, but who had never ceased to believe in his honesty and his patriotism."

Later, on 19th August, 1905, at St. Timothée, Mr. Bergeron, ex-Conservative member for Beauharnois, said :

" If Hon. Mr. Gouin, who now commands the support of the immense majority of the Provincial members frankly and energetically strives to carry out the patriotic programme which he has laid down, I am prepared to give him my modest support."

And Mr. F. D. Monk, the late Conservative member for Jacques-Cartier, and Minister of Public Works at Ottawa:

"I desire, above all, the maintenance of the honor, the sacred rights, the prestige of my province for the general progress of Confederation. *Like Mr. Bergeron, I am disposed to act with Mr. Gouin* or with any other patriot who will sincerely labor for the work of upraising the province."

Sir Lomer Gouin has proved since 1905 that he is both a man of word and a man of action. As we will show, his Government has not only carried out its pledges, but has done much more than it promised.

FINANCIAL EQUILIBRIUM

Like the Conservatives in 1892, Sir Lomer Gouin had promised to maintain an equilibrium in the finances. Let us see how he has kept his word :

STATEMENT OF THE ORDINARY BUDGET

	<i>Ordinary Revenue</i>	<i>Ordinary Expenditure</i>	<i>Surplus</i>
1905-06.....\$	5,340,166.88	\$ 5,012,417.74	\$ 327,749.14
1906-07.....	5,270,594.74	4,691,250.42	579,344.32
1907-08.....	6,016,615.77	4,939,919.06	1,076,696.71
1908-09.....	6,082,187.39	5,441,880.22	640,307.17
1909-10.....	6,571,944.27	5,480,590.26	1,091,354.01
1910-11.....	7,032,744.99	6,126,834.95	905,910.04
1911-12.....	8,070,109.19	7,022,796.26	1,047,312.93
1912-13.....	8,382,737.13	7,612,161.66	770,575.47
1913-14.....	9,000,376.73	8,091,726.66	908,650.07
1914-15.....	9,597,925.67	8,330,257.01	1,267,668.66
Totals for the ten years...	71,365,402.76	62,749,834.24	8,615,568.52
Ann. average..	7,136,540.27	6,274,983.42	861,556.85

If we carry to the expense account, the sums spent annually for public works, the construction of public buildings, and bridges and the abolition of Toll gates, namely :

1905-06	\$ 167,399.81
1906-07	73,593.92
1907-08	41,000.00
1908-09	98,000.00
1909-10	147,164.85
1910-11	298,065.09
1911-12	363,883.95
1912-13	341,823.33
1913-14	532,641.27
1914-15	380,258.63

Total for the ten years.....	\$ 2,443,830.85
Annual average.....	244,383.08

The statement of the finances was as follows :

	<i>Ordinary revenue</i>	<i>Ordinary and extraordinary ex- penses for public buildings and works</i>	<i>Surplus</i>
1905-06.....	\$5,340,166.88	\$5,179,817.55	\$ 160,349.33
1906-07.....	5,270,594.74	4,764,844.34	505,750.40
1907-08.....	6,016,615.77	5,980,919.06	1,035,696.71
1908-09.....	6,082,187.39	5,539,880.22	542,307.17
1909-10.....	6,571,944.27	5,627,755.11	944,189.16
1910-11.....	7,032,744.99	6,424,900.04	607,844.95
1911-12.....	8,070,109.19	7,386,680.21	683,428.98
1912-13.....	8,382,737.13	7,953,984.99	428,752.14
1913-14.....	9,060,376.73	8,624,367.93	376,008.80
1914-15.....	9,597,925.67	8,710,515.64	887,410.03
Totals for the ten years...	\$71,365,402.76	\$65,193,665.09	\$ 171,737.67
Ann. average..	7,136,540.27	6,519,366.50	617,173.76

The sums paid by the Government for the construction of the New Montreal goal, which amounted, on 30th June, 1915 to \$3,608,101.26 are not included in the figures of the expenditure. It does not include also a sum of \$85,616.25 advanced for the Montcalm Court House and a sum of \$35,000 for the Roberval Court House. The above payments are only loans or advances made to the districts in which those constructions are made, which alone must bear the cost of such constructions. These advances must be repaid to the Province out of the Building and Jury fund as prescribed by the Acts Edward VII, chapter 36, 1 Geo. V, ch. 5 and 2 Geo. V, ch. 6. In addition to the above sums the Government has paid, without including the same in the amount of expenditure, \$380,000 as indemnity to the hotelkeepers whose licenses have been cancelled by the Government in the cities of Montreal and Quebec, which amount will be reimbursed by annual instalments, as prescribed by the Act, 4, Geo. V, ch. 6, by the present hotel proprietors. The Government has also advanced a sum of \$74,627.74 for the damming of the St. Maurice river, but the annual dues which will be collected from the riparian manufacturers, as enacted by the Act 3, Geo. V, ch. 6, will enable the Government to recover all disbursements.

But if account be taken of the payments:

For the Montreal goal.....	\$ 3,608,101.26
For the Montcalm Court House and goal.....	85,616.25
For the Roberval Court House.....	35,000.00
For the damming of the St. Maurice river.....	74,627.74
And the indemnities paid to hotelkeepers.....	380,000.00
<hr/>	
A total of.....	\$4,183,345.25

There would still be an excess of receipts of \$1,988,392.42, deduction made of the above payments, and the surpluses of the Gouin Government for the last ten years would amount to \$6,171,737.67.

DEFICIT OF 1897

As every one knows, the Flynn Government resigned on

26th May, 1897. In order to prevent all possible dispute, we give the statement of that budget to the 26th May and 30th June, 1897.

STATEMENT OF THE ORDINARY BUDGET.

From 1st July, 1896, to 26th May, 1897	Ordinary revenue	Ordinary expenditure	Deficit
Year 1896-97	\$3,212,493.69	\$3,808,001.46	\$ 595,507.77
	3,874,966.22	4,685,450.42	810,484.20

The Conservatives cannot deny the paternity of the deficit that existed on 26th May 1897.

They are also responsible for the deficit on 30th June, 1897. It was proved in the House that the Marchand Government, from 26th May to 30th June, 1897, had collected as much as their predecessors, during the same period in the previous years. And on the other hand, out of \$4,685,450.42 of expenses of the year 1896-97, \$4,318,368.77 were paid in virtue of statutes passed by the Conservative Governments, \$143,976.37 under special warrants authorized by the Flynn Government and \$223,105.28 only, under special warrants authorized by the Marchand Government. (J., 1908, p. 475.) The list of these warrants issued by the Marchand Government will be found on pages 332 and following of the Public Accounts for 1897, and we defy anybody to find anything abnormal in this.

It should be observed that the Conservatives included in the figures of ordinary expenditure the proceeds of the new taxes which they had imposed in 1892. Now, according to Mr. Hall and Mr. Atwater, both of whom were Treasurers, those taxes had been imposed, not for the purpose of meeting ordinary expenditure, but to meet the obligations contracted previous to 1892, and especially to enable the Government to repay the guarantee deposits made by the railway companies and to pay the railway subsidies as they became exigible. (Mr. Hall's speech, Debates of the Legislature, 1893, p. 567, and Mr. Atwater's speech in the Legislative Assembly, 9th Feb., 1899, p. 14 of French pamphlet.) The proceeds of those taxes should not therefore have been counted as ordinary revenue, because

the amounts paid to the railway companies were not included in the ordinary expenditure. Those taxes yielded:

1892-93.....	\$520,207.26
1893-94.....	540,058.32
1894-95.....	514,935.24
1895-96.....	492,306.47
1896-97.....	328,466.51

(V & P 1912, p. 471).

From 1st July 1896 to 26th May
1897.....

239,483.86

(V. & P. 1908, p. 467.)

STATEMENT OF ORDINARY AND EXTRAORDINARY ESTIMATES.

	<i>Ordinary revenue</i>	<i>Ordinary and extraordin- ary expenditure for public works and buildings.</i>	<i>Deficit</i>
From 1st July, 1896 to 26th May, 1897	\$3,212,493.69	\$3,981,701.65	\$ 769,207.96
Year 1896-97	3,874,966.22	4,862,282.70	987,316.48

THE PUBLIC DEBT.

The following statement gives a good idea of the financial situation on the 17th December, 1891, when the de Boucherville Government was formed; on the 26th May, 1897, when the Marchand Government was formed; on 23rd March, 1905, when the Gouin Government was formed, and on the 30th June last.

DIRECT LIABILITIES AND

	1st November 1901	28th May 1907	23rd March 1915	31st June 1915
LIABILITIES				
Funded Debt				
Temporary Loans	\$25,209,873.33	\$34,225,747.42	\$34,731,016.16	\$34,488,916.22
Dominion of Canada—Balance of account to 31st December 1903	150,000.00		700,000.00	
Dominion of Canada—Price of Property purchased for Q.M.O. & O. Railway			1,473,600.63	1,473,600.63
Trust Deposits	85,380.12	25,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00
Outstanding Warrants	258,243.25	281,468.26	423,189.44	642,316.84
Railway Company Deposits to meet guaranteed interest on bonds	149,600.21	21,955.71	20,276.21	800,276.05
Loss on Exchange Bank Deposit	1,830,765.64	595,227.53		
Quebec Court House Bonds	25,500.00	25,218.75	25,218.75	67,800.00
Sherbrooke Court House Bonds	200,000.00	200,000.00	138,400.00	60,000.00
Amount due to Banks (overdraft)				
Total Liabilities	\$27,939,662.55	\$35,374,617.67	\$38,258,814.12	\$37,557,918.74

\$27,939,662.55

\$35,374,617.67

\$38,258,814.12

\$37,557,918.74

DIRECT LIABILITIES AND AVAILABLE ASSETS (continued)

2

	17th December 1891	26th May 1897	23rd March 1905	30th June 1915
ASSETS				
Price of Sale of Q.M.O. & O. Railway	\$7,600,000.00	\$7,600,000.00	\$7,600,000.00	
Railway grant under Dom. Act 47 V., C. 8.	2,394,000.00	2,394,000.00	2,394,000.00	
Sinking Fund			174,006.12	1,365,635.22
Trust Funds and Common School Fund in the hands of the Dominion				
Cash in Banks	893,491.27	789,328.54	1,519,043.50	1,164,490.35
Cost of Jacques Cartier Normal School, Montreal to be repaid from sale of prop- erty				2,612,159.80
Advance in re late Hon. Ths. McGreevy	138,348.02	6,153.60	5,391.11	5,000.00
Advances to various parties	100,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00	
New Gaol, District of Montreal, advances	145,352.69	161,832.89	130,687.29	107,437.29
Montealm District Court House, advances				3,608,101.26
Quebec Court House Tax	200,000.00	200,000.00	138,400.00	85,611.25
Sherbrooke Court House Tax				67,800.00
Roberval District Court House, advances				60,000.00
Advances to pay indemnities to hotelkeepers under the Act 4, Geo. 7, ch. 6				37,914.40
Storing of the waters on St. Maurice River, advances				349,075.71
Total assets	\$11,471,191.98	\$11,251,315.03	\$12,061,528.02	\$9,537,852.54
Excess of Liabilities over Assets	\$16,468,470.57	\$24,123,302.64	\$26,197,286.10	\$28,020,066.20

The above statement shows that the excess of liabilities over assets was:

17th Dec., 1891...	\$16,468,470.57	say about 11.05 per head
26th May, 1897....	24,123,302.64	" 15.25 "
23rd March, 1905...	26,197,286.10	" 15.00 "
30th June, 1915....	28,020,066.20	" 13.99 "

Thus from 1891 to 1897, under the Conservative régime there was an increase of \$7,654,832.07, or \$4.20 per head.

From 1905 to 1915, under the Gouin Government, there was a decrease of \$4.20 per head.

It should also be noted again that the amount of the consolidated debt was increased by \$1,117,911.42 between 1897 and 1905 owing to certain conversion operations effected under an act of the Flynn Government. (Votes and Proceedings 1910, p. 437). Without such increase, the excess of liabilities over assets would have been \$25,079,374.68 on the 23rd March, 1905, and \$26,902,154.78 on the 30th June, 1915.

It should also be noted that the increase of the public debt is caused exclusively by the expenses incurred for the improvements of roads. For the four years 1911-12, 1912-13, 1913-14 and 1914-15 the Government has disbursed for the improvement of rural roads, a sum of \$11,723,277.82, namely \$9,546,059.70, under the law of 1912 and \$2,177,218.12 out of the ordinary road budget.

Without taking into account the monies so wisely spent for the improvement of roads by the Gouin Government, the excess of the liabilities over the assets, leaving aside the increase of the debt by conversion, would have amounted only to \$18,474,006.50 on the 30th June, 1915, and the consolidated debt would have been only \$22,500,000.00 that is to say lower than at any time for almost 30 years past.

RAILWAY SUBSIDIES

As may have been seen, the amount of the railway subsidies earned and not paid, is not included in the above statement of liabilities. The subsidies voted since 1897 are payable in land, and it is impossible to determine their value. Moreover,

if the value of those subsidies were included in the liabilities, it would be necessary, to be fair, to include in the assets the value of all the public lands of the province. Now, the present Government would merely gain by this, because in 1898 the public domain was enlarged by nearly 91,000,000 acres through the annexation of the territories of Abitibi, Ashuanipi and Mistassini (V. P. 1912, p. 565), and has just been further enlarged to the extent of 227,000,000 acres by the annexation of Ungava.

The Conservatives usually try to explain the increase in the liabilities by the payment of subsidies to railways and the expenditure on public works. Now, the official figures on pages 390 and 391 of the Votes and Proceedings of 1912 show what sums of money each régime had to pay for such purposes:

	From 17 Dec. 1891 to 26 May 1897	From 26 May 1897 to 23 March 1905	From 23 March 1905 to 30 June 1915
Railway subsidies.....	\$4,626,901.62	\$914,970.00	\$213,308.61
Public Works and Build- ings.....	1,366,059.30	270,448.55	2,455,734.50
Totals.....	\$5,992,960.92	\$1,185,418.55	\$2,669,043.11

We may at once add that, between the 1st July, 1892, and the 26th May, 1897, the following amounts had been collected on taxes abolished in 1897, namely:

Taxes on transfers of property.....	\$983,844.34
Taxes on certain persons.....	69,036.04
Licenses on trade and manufactures.....	464,092.57
Total.....	\$1,516,972.95

(V. and P., 1912, p. 394)

MR. HALL'S STATEMENT

The Conservatives also claim that the above statement of liabilities is not correct and they base their claim on statements furnished year by year by the various provincial treasurers in their budget speeches. Every treasurer is at liberty to

maintain what he pleases in his speeches, and for that reason we have statements of the debt prepared on quite different plans. The statement given above was made by the officers of the Treasury Department according to a uniform plan, and it is based on the Public Accounts.

The statement of liabilities on 11th December, 1891, which Mr. Hall made out in 1892, may perhaps be cited. But we have no hesitation in saying that it is absurd. Mr. Hall's statement is not official.

It was prepared to serve the needs of the Conservative cause, that is to say, to make the people believe that the province was on the verge of bankruptcy, and for that reason considerable amounts were inserted which were not due and which would never become due.

Estimated deficiency of ordinary revenue to meet ordinary expenditure between 17th December, 1891, and 30th June, 1892.....	\$496,723.67
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------

In truth, this is a curious way of establishing what was due on the 17th December, 1891. The expected deficit for six months ahead is taken into account. But, while Mr. Hall was about it, why did he not put in the liabilities the deficits of the five following years? This would have been equally correct.

And further on:

Special expenditure authorized by the act 54 Victoria, ch. 1, Schedule B.....	\$838,555.00	
Less paid to 17th December, 1891.....	128,208.55	
		\$710,346.45

Thus, under the pretext that the Government was authorized to spend \$710,346.45 more for certain purposes during the current year, Mr. Hall carries \$710,346.45 to liabilities. That amount was not due, it might or might not be spent, but, to Mr. Hall, it was a debt.

Mr. Hall expressly said in statement No. 4, annexed to his Budget Speech of the 20th May, 1892, that \$523,971.65 of the \$710,346.45 would not be expended; nevertheless that amount

of \$710,346.45 is given in the liabilities. And in fact only a portion of it was expended as appears on page 463 of the Votes and Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly for the session of 1908.

"By Mr. Mercier—What amount of the special expenditure of \$838,555.00 authorized by the act 54 Victoria, chapter 1, schedule B, was paid between the 17th December, 1891, and 30th June, 1892?"

"Answer by Honorable Mr. Weir;—\$191,832.22."

And further on:

"Additional amounts estimated to be required for the following public works:

Parliament Buildings, balance contract for statues.....	\$ 16,000.00
Parliament Buildings, to complete wall enclosing grounds	16,000.00
Montreal Court House, to complete contract.....	453,500.00
McGill Normal School, for furniture delivered.....	6,580.00
Jacques Cartier Normal School, for furniture delivered.	111,380.62
Iron bridges, under engagement.....	72,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$675,460.62

It would be necessary, to have work done, to purchase furniture, etc., etc. Therefore, according to Mr. Hall, the cost of such works and furniture, etc., was a debt.

On the 5th December, 1893, in his Budget Speech, Mr. Hall, nevertheless, said :

"It will be noticed that I have struck out from the liabilities the amounts *which may be required* for construction of the Montreal Court House, Parliament Buildings and Iron Bridges, as we are at present paying these out of ordinary revenue."

What difference could this make?

If the amounts considered necessary for the construction of public buildings constituted a debt in 1891, they were equally one in 1893. If they were not a debt in 1893, neither were they one in 1891. There is no getting over this. A debt is a debt whether paid out of ordinary revenue or not.

Another item in Mr. Hall's statement :

" Railway money subsidies, authorized, but not yet earned	\$3,147,910.99	
Railway land subsidies converted into money, subsidies authorized but not yet earned, balance on first 35 cents per acre	1,144,325.90	
Railway land subsidies which may be converted into money subsidies, 5,028,000 acres at 70c. per acre: \$3,519,600.00, first 35c. per acre payable as work is done	1,759,800.00	\$6,052,036.89

And, at once, Mr. Hall added \$6,052,036.89 to liabilities. Those subsidies were not due, were not earned, perhaps they never would be ; but that did not matter ; the liabilities had to be swelled. Now does one know what portion of that amount of \$6,052,036.89 of subsidies was not earned within the required delays and consequently lapsed ? \$2,870,449.23, (page 500 of the Votes and Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly for the session of 1908).

Such a method of keeping accounts was so absurd that Mr. Hall himself denounced it in his Budget Speech of the 5th December, 1893 :

" It has been the practice of my predecessors to put in the liabilities *all the amounts voted by statute for railway subsidies, whether lapsed or not.* It is proposed in future to put in subsidies that are possible to be earned. I should say also that even some of those included may not be earned and *none are due until earned.*" (Page 18).

If we strike from Mr. Hall's statement those amounts of \$149,600.21; \$710,346.45; \$675,460.62 and \$6,052,036.89, which should not be in it, the difference will correspond to the figures of the official statement we have given.

INDIRECT OBLIGATIONS

The Conservatives also say: " You do not count in the liabilities the amounts you have spent in building the technical

schools and the school for higher commercial studies. Now, those sums constitute a debt and should appear in the liabilities."

The answer to that is the following: The schools were built by corporations and not by commissions, as they are pleased to repeat. Those corporations borrowed money. The Government has guaranteed their loans, it is true, but there is a first mortgage on the school grounds and buildings which secure the payment of the loans. Now, those grounds and buildings are at present worth more than they cost, owing to the increased value of land and building materials. Thus, to mention only one, the grounds of the Montreal Technical school for which a sum of \$150,000 was paid in 1908, can to-day be sold for \$1,000,000.00.

If the including in the direct liabilities of the amount of the loans guaranteed by the Government be insisted upon, it would be necessary in all cases to include at the same time in the assets the value of the schools and grounds hypothecated in favor of the Government, and such value is certainly not less than the amount of the guarantee given.

Moreover the Conservatives could hardly reproach us with having guaranteed the obligations of corporations of such practical social utility as technical schools and the school of Higher Commercial Studies, when the government of their choice, the Borden Government, guaranteed to Messrs. McKenzie and Mann, a lump sum of \$45,000.000, to which a gift of \$15,000.000 had just previously been made; British Columbia, ruled by Conservatives has guaranteed bonds for an amount in excess of \$60,000.000 or \$152 per head of population. From 1905 to 1914 the Gouin Government has increased the indirect obligations of the Province by \$1,947.000 or \$0.97 per head; in the same period of time, the Whitney Government increased the indirect obligations of Ontario by \$7,058.390 or \$2.79 per head.

And since we are speaking of the Government's indirect obligations, we will give here a statement of such obligations at various dates, by which it will be seen that the Conservatives themselves also created some, and we wish to add that they did not show them either in the statement of liabilities or in the Treasurers' public accounts.

INDIRECT OBLIGATIONS

17th Dec. 1891 to 26th May, 1897.	
Montreal & Western Railway Company.....	\$ 840,000.00
Protestant Hospital for the Insane, Montreal.....	185,000.00
Beauport Lunatic Asylum.....	90,000.00
Longue Pointe Lunatic Asylum.....	500,000.00
Hull Court House Debentures.....	72,500.00

Total

\$1,687,500.00

Thus in six years, from 1891 to 1897, indirect obligations to the amount of \$1,687,500.00 were created by the Conservatives.

STATEMENT OF THE CONSOLIDATED DEBT

As will be seen by the statement of liabilities given below, the amount of the consolidated debt was:

17th Dec. 1891.....	\$25,209,873.33	say about	\$16.90 per head
26th May 1897.....	34,225,747.42	"	21.60 "
23rd March 1905.....	34,731,016.16	"	20.00 "
30th June 1915.....	34,488,916.22	"	17.20 "

Thus, from 1891 to 1897, under the Conservative regime, here was an increase of \$9,015,974.09 or \$4.70 per head.

From 1905 to 1915, under the Gouin Government, there was a decrease of \$242,099.94 or \$2.78 per head, notwithstanding the loans made for the improvement of roads amounting to nearly \$12,000,000.

It should be observed once more that owing to the conversion operations between 1897 and 1905, in virtue of an act passed under the Flynn Government, the consolidated debt was increased by \$1,117,911.42, without such conversion, the consolidated debt would have been:

On the 23rd March, 1905.....	\$33,623,104.74
On the 30th June, 1915.....	33,371,004.80

THE ANNUAL INTEREST ON THE CONSOLIDATED DEBT

The interest paid yearly by a country is the best indication

of the extent to which the burden of the public debt weighs upon that country.

Now, the amount represented by the yearly interest payable on the consolidated debt of the province at various periods was as follows: (V. and P., 1912, p. 572.)

17th December, 1891.....	\$1,168,570.67	or \$0.77 per head
26th May, 1897.....	1,426,865.59	0.90 "
23rd March, 1905.....	1,335,446.95	0.75 "
30th June, 1915.....	1,313,038.32	0.62½ "

Thus, from 1891 to 1897, under the Conservative regime, there was an increase of \$258,294.92 or \$0.13 per head.

From 1905 to 1915, under the Gouin Government, there was a decrease of 22,408.63 or 0.12½ per head.

In 1895, 35% of the provincial revenue was absorbed in the payment of the interest on the debt; in 1905, this was reduced to 32% and in 1915, 17% of the revenue is sufficient.

LOANS

Under the Conservative Governments which Mr. Cousineau and his friends never cease to praise, they borrowed almost weekly. It was the golden age of lenders and brokers. They even borrowed at \$0.77 on the dollar.

The following is a list of the temporary loans contracted between the 21st December, 1891, and the 26th May, 1897. We reprint it from pages 48 and 49 of the Budget Speech of 1912.

1892

May	2—Banque d'Epargne de la cité et du district de Montréal.....	\$300,000.00
"	2—Caisse d'Economie.....	50,000.00
"	5—Caisse d'Economie.....	50,000.00
"	11—Caisse d'Economie.....	50,000.00
June	11—Bank of Montreal.....	150,000.00
"	30—Bank of Montreal.....	800,000.00
Oct.	14—Merchants Bank of Canada.....	250,000.00
"	14—Bank of Montreal.....	500,000.00
"	14—Molsons Bank.....	200,000.00
"	14—Quebec Bank.....	50,000.00

1893

April	1—La Caisse d'Economie	150,000.00
Sept.	1—La Banque du Peuple	50,000.00
"	1—North British & Mercantile Fire & Life Insee, Co.	50,000.00
"	4—Banque d'Epargne de la cité et du district de Montréal	50,000.00
Oct.	6—La Banque d'Hochelaga	100,000.00
Nov.	3—Bank of Montreal	120,000.00

1894

Jan.	31—La Caisse d'Economie	50,000.00
"	29—Banque d'Epargne de la cité et du district de Montréal	50,000.00
Feb.	1—La Caisse d'Economie	50,000.00
"	2—Crédit Foncier-Canadien	150,000.00
"	28—Quebec Bank	100,000.00
"	28—Banque d'Epargne de la cité et du district de Montréal	50,000.00
"	28—Merchants Bank of Canada	50,000.00
Oct.	24—La Caisse d'Economie	100,000.00
Nov.	5—La Caisse d'Economie	100,000.00
"	13—La Caisse d'Economie	100,000.00
"	30—Bank of Montreal	300,000.00
Déc.	6—La Caisse d'Economie	50,000.00
"	10—La Caisse d'Economie	50,000.00
"	13—Banque d'Epargne de la cité et du district de Montréal	100,000.00
"	17—La Caisse d'Economie	50,000.00

1895

Jan.	10—La Caisse d'Economie	50,000.00
Feb.	18—La Caisse d'Economie	100,000.00
May	25—Coates, Son & Co., London, England	182,500.00
"	25—Liverpool, London & Globe Insee., Co.	182,500.00
"	25—British Linen Company Bank, London	365,000.00
June	29—Coates, Son & Co., London, England	365,000.00
Nov.	18—Coates, Son & Co., London, England	365,000.00
	30—Banque d'Epargne de la cité et du district de Montréal	300,000.00
Total		\$6,180,000.00

And they also contracted permanent loans. Here is a list taken from page 47 of the same speech:

Loan of 15th July, 1893.....	\$4,106,461.00
Loan of 1st March, 1894.....	2,920,000.00
Loan of 30th December, 1894.....	5,332,976.00
Loan of 1st May, 1896.....	3,017,333.33
Loan of 1st April, 1897.....	1,360,000.00

Add, viz :

Increase of capital by conversion.....	\$16,736,770.33
Rectification in par of exchange on loan of 1888.....	625,651.41
	13,733.33

\$17,376,155.07

Deduct in payment of part of the

Loan of 1880.....	\$ 393,819.98
" 1891.....	3,860,000.00
" 1893.....	4,106,461.00

Increase by permanent loans..... **\$8,360,280.98**
\$9,015,874.09

As may be imagined, Mr. Cousineau's friends wasted no time in borrowing.

And how did these business men proceed? Here is a sample of their operations, which will be found exposed on page 564 of the V. P., 1912.

On 15th July, 1893, a loan of \$3,860,000 became due.

The Taillon Government paid it off with new bonds to the amount of \$4,106,461.00, bearing 4% interest and maturing on 15th July, 1895.

But they did not wait for its falling due to repay it. They had to peddle the bonds of the province again. On 20th January, 1895, the Taillon Government redeemed the bonds of the loan of \$4,106,461.00 by issuing new bonds to the amount of \$5,332,976, plus \$69.48 in money.

So that on 20th January, 1895, the province owed \$5,332,976.00 instead of \$3,860,000.00, in consequence of the obligations undertaken by the Taillon Government in order to pay off the \$3,860,000.00 which had to be reimbursed on 15th July, 1893.

Loss to the province: \$1,472,976.00, plus \$69.48 paid in cash, or nearly 40% of the amount repayable.

This is how the Conservatives like to see business done.

UNDER THE LIBERAL REGIME

The Liberals in 1897 had promised the people to maintain an equilibrium in the finances and to administer economically without contracting new loans.

From the 21st May, 1897, to the first July, 1912, only one loan was contracted; that of the 30th June, 1897, amounting to \$700,000.00; Various loans had been contracted under the Conservative Governments, the proceeds of which were to be used for certain purposes specified in the acts authorizing such loans and for no other. Now the Conservative Governments had used a portion of the proceeds of such loans to pay expenses of the yearly budgets. It was for the purpose of restoring the balance of the loans' account that Mr. Marchand, effected a temporary loan of \$700,000.00, on the 30th June, 1897. That loan was repaid in 1906 by the Gouin Government.

And that is not the only loan that has been repaid. The following statement shows the amounts paid between the 23rd March, 1905, and the 30th June, 1915, on account of permanent loans.

Loan of	1874.....	\$ 2,723,873.33
"	1876.....	3,111,746.67
"	1878.....	2,698,000.00
"	1882.....	2,493,080.00
On the loan of 1880.....		1,156,709.34
		<hr/>
And with the temporary loan of 1897		\$12,183,409.34
		700,000.00
		<hr/>
A total of		12,883,409.34

When he came before the electors in May, 1912, Sir Lomer, judging that the credit of the Province was most satisfactory, submitted to the people his new Good Road's policy. He declared that the Government would spend ten millions of dollars, and even twenty millions of dollars, if it was deemed necessary, to endow the Province of Quebec with a good system of ways of communication; the people generously placed their

confidence in him and more than sixty Liberal members were elected.

We will mention further on the considerable amount of work done by the Department of Roads since its creation. For the moment we will only indicate the amount, the date and rates of interest of the loans contracted by the Government since 1912 for the improvement of roads.

Permanent loans	Interest	Date.	
\$1,949,586.67	4½%	1 January, 1913	41 years
\$3,991,722.73	4½%	1 July, 1914	39½ years
\$6,000,000.00	5%	1 April, 1915	5 years

A portion of such loans was effected to pay the following temporary loans:

Temporary loans	Date	Date reimbursed
\$1,460,000.00	1st Nov. 1913	1st May 1914
renewed.....	1st May, 1914	1st Aug., 1914
\$4,000,000.00	1st Dec., 1914	3rd May, 1915

Though the Government only borrowed \$11,940,309.40, \$8,581,228.15 was placed at the disposal of municipalities and \$4,249,349.15 was employed by the Government in the construction of provincial roads, from 1st July, to 10th March, 1916—(V. P. 1916, page 357).

We pretend that, thanks to the excellent credit enjoyed by the Province all these loans have been floated under the most advantageous conditions possible.

Thus, notwithstanding the present financial conditions, the last loan of six millions has yielded \$100.10 4-5 for each \$100, when at the same time Ontario was borrowing at \$99.63.

The "Commercial and Financial Chronicle" of New York in its issue of December, 1915, quoted the various Canadian securities as follows:

Dominion of Canada: 5% Bonds, payable 1st August, 1916, price asked \$100 5-8; price offered \$100 3-8; 5% Bonds payable 1st August, 1917, price asked, \$100 3-4; price offered 100½.

Province of Alberta: 5% Debentures payable 1st May, 1925; price asked \$95; price offered \$93;

Province of Manitoba: 5% Debentures payable in 1920, price asked, \$99 1-4; price offered, \$98 1-4;

Province of New Brunswick: 4½% Debentures payable 1st December, 1925, price asked, \$95, no offer.

Province of Nova Scotia: 4% Debentures, payable in 1920, price asked \$95 1-4;

Province of Ontario: 5% Debentures payable in 1920, price asked \$99 1-4, price offered \$98 2-5;

Province of Quebec: 5% Debentures payable on the 1st April, 1920, price offered \$99; no sellers.

Province of Saskatchewan: 5% Debentures payable in 1918, price asked \$97 3-4, no buyers.

Thus, it is seen that the Province of Quebec 5% Debentures, are quoted but slightly lower than the Dominion short term Bonds or Notes and head the list of all provincial securities.

It is but a corroboration of the opinion of a Conservative newspaper of Montreal, "The Gazette" when in its issue of the 3rd July, 1914, it said: "Next to the securities of the Dominion Government there is none on the list of Canadian securities in London that stands higher in intrinsic merit than Province of Quebec Stock"

Certain people are found, who for party purposes, and with notorious bad faith, declare the Government is ruining the credit of the Province; that within a period of four years it has borrowed close to twenty millions of dollars.

We have just proved that our credit is superior to that of the other provinces; it is true that the Government has borrowed a sum not much below twenty millions, but we must not forget that the permanent loans had for object the redeeming of temporary loans, so that really the Government only borrowed twelve millions;

To show that the Province of Quebec is not continuously borrowing as certain provinces so dear to the hearts of Conservatives, we have inserted below a list, published by the "Monetary Times", of the loans contracted by the Ontario Government during one single year:—

Amount	Rate	Term	Date
\$5,000,000.00	4½%	50 years	July, 1914
1,000,000.00	5%	5 years	July, 1914
1,000,000.00	5%	5 years	July, 1914
1,000,000.00	5%	5 years	December, 1914
3,000,000.00	5%	3 years	February, 1915
1,000,000.00	5%	5 years	April, 1915
2,000,000.00	3 7-8%	9 mos	May, 1915
4,000,000.00	4½%	10 years	May, 1915
\$18,000,000.00			

Formerly in the good Province of Quebec, the Government borrowed to pay deficits, to gorge railway companies.

To-day the Liberals borrow to improve rural roads, to assist the farmers.

Times have changed.

FINANCIAL OPERATIONS FROM 1905 TO 1915

The following is a summary of the financial operations of the Province from the 1st July, 1905 to the 30th June, 1915:

The figures have been verified by expert accountants, having been compiled from the Public Accounts of each year.

Ordinary Revenue for the ten years.....	\$71,365,402.76
Ordinary Expenditure for the 10 years (including therein \$1,110,378.66 to reimburse part of the loan of 1880 as well as \$417,042.87 invested in the sinking fund of the Public debt).....	62,749,834.24
Excess of Ordinary Revenue over Ordinary Expenditure.	8,615,568.52
Expenditure for the 10 years (paid out of the consolidated Revenue funds) for the construction of public buildings and works (including therein \$922,500.00 for the subsidizing of iron bridges and \$372,670.03 for the abolition of toll-gates).....	2,443,830.85
Excess of ordinary revenue over ordinary expenditure and disbursements for the construction of permanent public works and buildings.	6,171,737.67
Extraordinary Expenditure for the 10 years	34,997,450.84
Extraordinary Revenue for the 10 years..	30,682,916.98
Excess of Extraordinary Expenditure over Extraordinary Revenue.	4,314,533.86

Excess of General Revenue over General Expenditure for the 10 years.....	1,857,203.81
The Province had in various banks, on the 1st July, 1905, deposits amounting to.....	151,665.68
A total of.....	2,008,869.49
From which amount must be deducted the amount of the cheques issued by the Government and unpaid by the banks on the 1st July, 1905.....	196,985.74
Cash on hand, the 30th June, 1915.....	1,811,883.75
Now, according to the Public Accounts the Government had in various banks, on the 1st July, 1915, deposits amounting to.....	2,612,159.80
From which amount must be deducted the amount of the cheques outstanding and unpaid by the banks on the 1st July, 1915.....	800,276.05
Leaving an available balance of.....	1,811,883.75

The above amounts of extraordinary revenue and expenditures may be detailed as follows:—

EXTRAORDINARY REVENUE

Amount received for sale of property.....	\$ 60,036.33
Reimbursement of the loan to Beauport Asylum.....	7,750.00
Reimbursement of the subsidy to the Quebec bridge.....	250,000.00
Reimbursement of the funds of Higher Education of Lower Canada.....	412,314.25
Price of sale of the Q. M. O. & O. Ry.....	7,000,000.00
Subsidy re Q. M. O. & O. Ry.....	2,394,000.00
Deposit re-price of sale of the Q. M. O. & O. Ry.....	304,000.00
Trust deposits.....	1,436,744.54
Proceeds of temporary loans.....	6,920,000.00
Proceeds of permanent loans (for the improvement of roads).....	11,867,147.57
Reimbursement of part of the indemnities paid to hotelkeepers.....	30,924.29
Total.....	\$30,682,916.98

EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURE

Payments re purchase of property.....	110,325.53
Advances for new Montreal Goal.....	3,577,843.22
Advance for Montcalm Court House.....	85,611.25
Advance for Roberval Court House.....	35,000.00

Advances for dam of St. Maurice river.....	74,627.26
Subsidies to railways and Quebec bridge.....	147,337.92
Payments for the improvements of roads under the Good Roads' Act, 1912, (advances to municipalities and costs of construction of Provincial roads.....	9,567,727.74
Reimbursement of Trust deposits.....	1,214,903.90
Reimbursement of Temporary loans (including that of 1897).....	7,620,000.00
Reimbursement of permanent loans (not including that of 1880).....	11,026,700.00
Advances as indemnities to hotelkeepers.....	380,000.00
Deposit re price of Q. M. O. & O. Ry.....	164,380.00
War donations.....	692,994.02
Total.....	\$34,997,450.84

SUMMARY

To resume, the Government has, from the 1st July, 1905
to the 30th June, 1915, received:—

1. Reimbursement of a loan made to Beauport Lunatic Asylum (from the Sisters of Charity).....	\$ 7,750.00
2. In payment of the price of the Q. M. O. & O. Ry (from the C. P. R.).....	7,000,000.00
3. In payment of the subsidy granted for the construc- tion of the Q. M. O. & O. Ry.....	2,394,000.00
4. In reimbursement of the subsidy paid for the Quebec bridge (from the Dominion).....	250,000.00
5. In reimbursement of the funds of Higher Education (from the Dominion).....	412,314.25
6. In Deposits (in addition to the sum of \$1,679,283.90 by the Gov.).....	61,460.64
A total of.....	\$10,125,524.89

On the other hand, the Government has, from the 1st July,
1905, to 30th June, 1915,—

1. Paid the balance between the amount deposited in the banks on the 1st July 1905 and the amount of outstanding cheques issued by the Government and repaid by the banks, namely.....	45,320.06
2. Reimbursed (in addition to temporary loans con- tracted since July 1st 1905) the temporary loan of 1897.....	700,000.00

3. Reimbursed on the permanent loans contracted previous to 1897, \$12,183,409.34 from which sum must be deducted \$11,867,147.57 the proceeds of the loans contracted in 1913; 1914 and 1915, for the improvement of roads, leaving a disbursement of.....	316,261.77
4. Invested in the sinking fund of the Public Debt....	417,042.87
5. Paid for the construction of public buildings and permanent works, the subsidizing of iron bridges and the abolition of toll-gates.....	2,443,830.85
6. Disbursed for the purchases and sales of property, over the amount received.....	50,289.20
7. Paid for the subsidizing of Railways and the Quebec bridge.....	147,337.92
8. Loaned to municipalities and disbursed on its own account for the construction of provincial roads under the Good Roads' Act, 1912.....	9,567,727.74
9. Advanced to the building and jury fund of the District of Montreal, for the construction of a goal..	3,577,843.22
10. Advanced for the construction of the Montcalm District Court House.....	85,611.25
11. Advanced for the construction of the Roberval District Court House.....	35,000.00
12. Advanced for the dam on St. Maurice river.....	74,627.26
13. Advanced to the hotelkeepers indemnity fund \$380,000.00, from which sum must be deducted \$30,924.29, amount reimbursed, leaving a disbursement of.....	349,075.71
14. Made war donations amounting to.....	692,994.02
Total.....	<u>\$18,502,961.87</u>

Excess of the payments over extraordinary revenues...	8,377,436.98
Moreover the Province had on the first July, 1915, in deposit in various banks \$2,612,159.80 from which must be deducted the amount of unpaid cheques then issued, \$800,276.05, leaving an available amount of...	<u>1,811,883.75</u>

To sum up, the Gouin Government has thus, from the 1st July 1905 to the 30th June, 1915, and that with the sole help of the ordinary revenue and notwithstanding the increase in the amounts voted for Public Instruction, Agriculture, Roads, Colonization, etc., reduced the public debt, increased the sinking fund of the public debt, improved the cash account, advanced or paid for various public permanent works, etc, to the extent of the total sum of.....

10,189,320.73

THE TAXES

It will be remembered that, in spite of the promises to impose no fresh taxes, the de Boucherville Government, on its advent to power, had acts passed creating various taxes.

It had a tax enacted on all transfers of property.

It imposed succession duties.

It established licenses for manufactures and trade, thus taxing large and small merchants in cities and in the country.

It imposed taxes on certain persons and compelled advocates, physicians, notaries, dentists, civil engineers, architects, public employees and officers to pay a certain amount into the provincial treasury yearly.

It re-imposed the tax, abolished by the Mercier Government, compelling municipalities to contribute one-half the expenses of the maintenance and care of the insane in the asylums of the Province.

It compelled municipalities to pay one-half the cost of the maintenance and care and the whole cost of conveying children sentenced to reformatory schools.

In like manner, it compelled municipalities to pay three-fourths of the cost of maintenance and care of children sent to industrial schools.

On the approach of the elections of 1897, the Conservatives repealed the taxes on transfers of property, the licenses on manufactures and trade, and the taxes on different persons.

Here was the revenue derived from these taxes in each county or collection district. The sums paid after 1st July, 1897, are arrears.

Taxes on transfers of property	\$ 983,844.34
Licenses on trade and manufactures	464,092.57
Taxes on certain persons	69,036.04
Total	<hr/> \$1,516,972.95

As will be seen these taxes yielded more than a million and a half of dollars. The Liberal Government did not re-establish them.

We will now show how the taxes imposed by the Conservatives were apportioned; The following interpellation on page 571 of the V. and P. for 1912 will tell us:

1. Did the Boucherville, Taillon and Flynn Governments exempt the settlers who sold, transferred or exchanged their lots from the payment of the taxes imposed in 1892 on the transfers of property?

Answer—No.

2. Was that tax collected from timber limits licensees who transferred their holdings?

Answer—No.

The poor had to pay but the rich enjoyed peacefully the protection of the Government. We must not be surprised at the above for the Conservatives have always shown partiality to the rich and have generally shown shameful disdain towards the poor.

Certain Conservatives pretend that in 1897, the Liberal party pledged itself to govern without taxes and that since, year after year, new taxes have been created while those established previous to 1897 were increased. The fallacy of such pretensions is easily proved.

It is false that in 1897, the Liberal party pledged itself to govern without taxes. The Conservatives themselves have plainly contradicted that statement by voting, the 26th March, 1908, upon a motion presented by Mr. Bernard, which will be found on page 164 of the Votes and Proceedings for 1908.

Moreover the following extract from the programme speech delivered by the late Mr. Marchand at Sherbrooke, on the 14th October, 1896, contains no such statement.

This is what he said:

"The true policy of a Government desirous of placing our Province in the financial and political field in which she belongs may be summed up in a few words:—Its first duty is to reduce by the most vigorous economical measures, the entire yearly expenditures, ordinary and extraordinary, within the limits of the annual revenue and to do away with the necessity of imposing new sacrifices on the people, so long as by such means, they can be exempted."

Thus, Mr. Marchand had promised, not to govern without taxes, but to increase the revenue without imposing new taxes

so long as it would not be strictly necessary. He has kept his word. His successors have equally followed the same policy and have only created new taxes on the day when with the approval of the people and the consent of the electors, they deemed it their duty to promote more efficaciously the interests of public instruction and to adopt a more progressive policy relating to the improvement and construction of roads.

The Liberals, we must render them this testimony, have never imposed but equitable taxes affecting not only the poor as the Conservatives had done, but those who could well afford the luxury of speculating in stocks, travelling in automobiles, hiring private detectives to spy on honest people, etc.

Mr. Cousineau and his friends, say:—

Since you have a surplus every year why impose taxes?

And these good Conservatives invariably end in reproaching the Government for having a surplus, as if it was a mark of administrative capacity not to economize part of its revenues either with a view of repaying the public debt or for other purposes.

Ontario, to name only the largest Province administered by Conservatives, had in 1914, a deficit of \$697,928; To balance its budget and to meet new conditions created by war; the financial crisis, as well as by an extravagant administration, the Toronto Government has been forced to impose a tax on all real estate in the Province which tax must be collected by the municipalities and acquitted by them.

Thanks to the foresight of Sir Lomer Gouin, thanks to the surpluses which his Government accumulates every year through his policy of judicious economy, the Province will not have to resort to such a rigorous measure, but it occupies a leading place among the other provinces and according to the "Montreal Gazette" is the most progressive of all the provinces

Contributions to Asylums and Reformatory and Industrial Schools

Nor did the Liberal Governments change the law governing the contribution of municipalities to the cost of keeping and supporting the insane in the asylums and juvenile offenders in the reformatory and industrial schools.

If the municipalities contribute to-day a higher amount

than they paid in 1897, it is simply because they send more patients to the asylums and more children to the reformatory institutions. It would be unjust to blame the Government for this.

During the session of 1912, the Opposition, by motion, expressed the opinion that the present system with respect to the insane should be reorganized, as it gives rise to "abuses and injustices." Now, we repeat that this system was the creation of the Conservatives in 1892 and 1893.

But the Opposition did not ask that the municipalities should be exempted from contributing to the maintenance of the insane in the asylums. Far from it. During the sitting of 2nd April, 1912, Mr. Tellier even declared that it was right to make the municipalities contribute in order to protect the Government against fraud. And, in thus speaking, Mr. Tellier remained true to the opinions which he had shared in 1893. In fact, in 1893, Mr. Taillon said with reference to the law relating to the insane.

"The act of the last session was passed to repress the abuses of charity. . . . It has been said that we should take the whole under our charge. But who would supply us with the money? If it were simply a question of expense and revenue the matter would be easy enough to settle. But the other question would always remain—to repress the abuses of public charity. (Debates of the Legislature, 1893, p. 611).

Without any discussion whatever, this law was amended in 1913, by the Statute 3 Geo. V, ch 3 and 4, in virtue of which the Government now pays \$120 instead of \$110 for each patient of the Beauport and Longue Pointe Asylums.

Moreover the Government pays more than its share for the lunatic asylums. Thus, during the year 1914-15; it spent \$617.625 and collected only \$262,554.79.

THE SUCCESSION DUTIES—THE LAW AND ITS MODIFICATIONS

It was in 1892, under the de Boucherville Administration that the first law was passed in this province imposing a tax on successions.

According to that law, all successions in the direct line, ascending or descending or between consorts,, had to pay a duty of 1% if their value exceeded \$10,000; if not, they were exempt from the duty. As for successions in the collateral line or between strangers, they were subject to a duty ranging from 3% to 10%, according as the heir was more or less nearly relative to the deceased.

It was soon discovered that most of the successions were transmitted in direct line or between consorts and that they were generally inconsiderable, for the tax only produced \$40,313.59 in 1892-93. And as the ministers of the time had great need of revenue, they had the tax amended in 1894.

By this amendment of 1894, the Taillon Government aimed especially to reach successions devolving in the direct line or between consorts. Therefore, the exemption was reduced from \$10,000 to \$3,000 and, instead of imposing as in 1892, a uniform duty of 1% on successions over \$10,000, a tax ranging from $\frac{1}{2}\%$ to 3% according to the figure of their value was imposed on successions, \$3,000 being in all cases the limit of exemption from it. As for the rate of the tax on successions in the collateral line or between strangers, it remained practically the same.

The "taxers" attained their end, for the tax on successions which had brought in \$40,313.59 in 1892-93, brought in \$229,441.00 in 1896-97.

The Act of 1894 was not altered before 1906.

In 1906, the Gouin Government revised the law and re-adjusted the taxation on a more equitable basis.

1. The limit of the exemption in successions in the direct line, between consorts, or between father or mother-in-law and son or daughter-in-law was changed from \$3,000 to \$5,000.

2. The duty on successions in the direct line, or similar, of a value exceeding \$75,000, was slightly increased, but reduced on those under \$75,000.

3. The tax on successions in the collateral line was also slightly increased.

4. An exemption was also enacted in favor of the first thousand dollars of legacies for religious, charitable or educational purposes.

As may be seen, these provisions of the act of 1906 are much more equitable than those of the act of 1894, since they lighten the burden that weighed on small inheritors.

The act of 1906 was further amended during the session of 1912. By the latter amendment, successions in the direct line or between consorts, or between father or mother-in-law and son or daughter-in-law are completely relieved from the tax, when they do not exceed \$15,000.

This Act was revised and modified as to its form during the session of 1913-14, as the result of a decision of the Privy Council in the case of Cotton versus The King, but no essential modification was made thereto and the scale of duties remains the same contrary to what took place in Ontario which also was forced to revise its Act.

The following table indicates the amount of duties imposed by each act on successions of \$3,000, \$3,500, \$4,000 etc, in the direct line, between consorts or between father or mother-in-law and son or daughter-in-law.

On a succession of	Duties imposed by the act of 1892	Duties imposed by the act of 1894	Duties imposed by the act of 1906	Duties imposed by the act of 1912 and its modifications of 1914
3,000	none	none	none	none
3,500	none	2.50	none	none
4,000	none	5.00	none	none
4,500	none	7.50	none	none
5,000	none	10.00	none	none
5,500	none	25.00	none	none
6,000	none	30.00	5.00	none
6,500	none	35.00	10.00	none
7,000	none	40.00	15.00	none
7,500	none	45.00	20.00	none
8,000	none	50.00	25.00	none
8,500	none	55.00	30.00	none
9,000	none	60.00	35.00	none
9,500	none	65.00	40.00	none
10,000	none	70.00	45.00	none
11,000	110.00	100.00	50.00	none
12,000	120.00	112.50	75.00	none
13,000	130.00	125.00	87.50	none
14,000	140.00	137.50	100.00	none
15,000	150.00	150.00	112.50	none
20,000	200.00	212.50	125.00	none
25,000	250.00	275.00	187.50	\$187.50
30,000	300.00	337.50	250.00	250.00
			312.50	312.50

35,000	350.00	400.00	375.00	375.00
40,000	400.00	462.00	437.50	437.50
45,000	450.00	525.00	500.00	500.00
50,000	500.00	587.50	532.50	532.50
55,000	550.00	780.00	750.00	750.00
60,000	600.00	855.00	825.00	825.00
65,000	650.00	930.00	900.00	900.00
70,000	700.00	1,005.00	975.00	975.00
75,000	750.00	1,080.00	1,050.00	1,050.00
80,000	800.00	1,155.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
85,000	850.00	1,230.00	1,600.00	1,600.00
90,000	900.00	1,305.00	1,700.00	1,700.00
95,000	950.00	1,380.00	1,800.00	1,800.00
100,000	1,000.00	1,455.00	1,900.00	1,900.00

This table clearly shows that, instead of increasing the duties as the Conservatives did, the Gouin Government is reducing them to a marked degree.

What were the results of the amendment of 1912? Statistics established:

1. That whilst the number of successions opened increases yearly, the number of successions subject to duty decreases.

2. That, though the duty was not increased and the exemption augmented from \$5,000 to \$15,000, the revenue increased by 50%. Reason:—augmentation of private wealth and increase in the importance of successions.

3. That the number of successions subject to duty has considerably decreased in the rural districts and the duties collected on such successions have equally diminished to a marked degree.

Years	Successions opened	Subject to duty	Exempted	Amount collected	Successions subject to duty in districts other than those of Montreal and Quebec
1910-11	5326	1254	4072	\$1,072,027.20	580
1914-15	5679	1157	4522	1,660,853.15	443

Thus, in three years, the number of successions opened has increased by 353; the number of successions exempted from duty by 450; and that of successions subject to duty has decreased by 97. In other terms, though there were 353 successions more in 1914-15 than in 1910-11, the number of successions which paid duty was decreased by 97 and the number exempted increased by 450.

Of the total number of successions opened in 1913-14 in the 1045 parish, townships and village municipalities, only 330 have paid duty, say, one succession by a little over 3 municipalities.

AVERAGE OF DUTIES COLLECTED

By succession affected.....	1913-14
By municipality (village, parish or township).....	115.70
By head of population (in villages, parishes and townships).....	36.54
	0.03 2/5

Facts further established:

1. That about one fortieth (1-40) of the successions subject to duty contribute about 75% of the total amount and that this tax affects principally those possessed of superfluous wealth.

2. That this tax affects, and obliges to contribute to the public Treasury, several millionaires residing outside of our Province but owning therein considerable property the protection whereof was assured by our laws and our police.

In 1912-13, \$1,064,108.60 was collected from 1145 successions, of which number 39 paid \$733,678.78 say 69%.

In 1913-14, \$1,604,479.55 was collected from 958 successions, of which number 21 paid \$1,358,220.00, say 84%.

In 1914-15, \$1,660,853.15 was collected from 1157 successions, of which number 29 paid \$1,278,063.78, say 76%.

In 1913-14 four successions of non residents of our Province but owning property therein paid \$283,272.96 say 18% of the total amount; and, the following year, four successions of persons equally domiciled outside the Province paid \$705,870.20, or 42% of the total amount.

Because the total amount collected in succession duties is higher to-day than in 1897, the Opposition infer that the Liberals have increased the duties.

The rate of the duty must not be confounded with the revenue from duty.

It is not surprising that the revenue from the duties should have increased. The present Government watches closely to see that all sums due are paid in, while in 1897 they neglected to have them collected.

The rate of duty was not increased from 1906 to date. Certain exemptions were even decreased in 1912. The revenue from duty was:

In 1906-07.....	\$ 568,278.63
1907-08.....	620,916.04
1908-09.....	634,445.18
1909-10.....	838,334.57
1910-11.....	1,072,027.20
1911-12.....	1,226,678.58
1912-13.....	1,064,108.60
1913-14.....	1,604,479.55
1914-15.....	1,660,853.15

Thus in nine years the revenue has increased by \$1,092,574.52 and in the last four years by \$598,825.95 without any increase being made in the rate of duty. Moreover the tax does not weigh as heavily upon the people as it is sought to make them believe and the millionaires are the only people who may be entitled to complain of such duty.

In any case, one thing must not be overlooked and that is that the Conservatives put that tax law on our Statute Books and that they will never repeal it.

During the session of 1915, the Government adopted the Statute 5 Geo. V, ch. 25, which subjected to succession duty all intervivos donations, when the donor dies within three years from the date of such donations.

Wherever succession duties have been established it had become a frequent practice especially among the wealthy classes to dispose of their property by intervivos donations so as to exempt their heirs from paying duty on their estate. The above provisions merely complete the Act on succession duties and are by no means, a new tax.

Its object, as is easily understood, is to prevent a manoeuvre the purpose of which was to defraud the treasury; a fraud which the conscience of many an honest man does not regard

in the least as dishonest, as is the habit of avoiding the payment of customs duties.

A similar law exists in all countries wherein duties on successions have been established. It exists in Ontario where it was given a retroactive effect of 22 years at the time of its adoption. Our law has no retroactive effect, it only applies to donations in case of death, it exempts from duty all donations made to collaterals, even to strangers, when the amount does not exceed one thousand dollars, and it does not apply to donations by marriage contracts. Moreover this law was especially adopted to cover the case of the individual who, on his death bed, makes a donation of his property to his children and only applies in the case where such property would have been subject to duty if transmitted by succession with the same amounts exempted. In other words, in the direct line, the first fifteen thousand dollars are exempted from any duty in a donation in case of death the same as in a transfer by succession.

THE TAX ON COMMERCIAL CORPORATIONS

Our adversaries are fond of speaking of taxes—Why are they silent on the tax on Commercial corporations.

This tax is rather old—it was created in 1882, but it may have been imposed to pay the—"debts of Mercier."; The Conservative Governments were always so prudent.

In the campaign of 1912, the Gouin Government had promised to re-adjust this tax. In the autumn session of 1912 he deposited a bill to that effect. According to the law then in force the tax was:

1. One-eighth of one per cent on the paid-up capital up to one million dollars, and \$50 per additional \$100,000 or fraction thereof;

2. \$50 for each business office, manufacturing plant or shop in the cities of Montreal and Quebec, and \$20 in any other municipality.

One-eighth of one per cent is equivalent to \$125 per \$100,000. Why charge \$125 on the ten first \$100,000 of the paid-up capital and only \$50 on each additional \$100,000? This was certainly not equitable. The Gouin Government proposed

to reduce the tax to one-tenth of one per cent on the paid-up capital whatever the amount of such capital.

In this way the tax on companies with a capital stock not exceeding one million of dollars was reduced by 20% and the companies with capital stocks of several millions of dollars were taxed the same as the small capital stock companies.

But the Conservatives have always shown partiality to large companies and millionaires. They proposed a fixed charge of \$50 for every \$100,000 exceeding the million. Their proposition was rejected, thanks to the concourse of the Liberal members, and thus all companies, whether large or small, are on an equal footing before the law and the companies with a capital not exceeding one million of dollars are paying 20% less than in 1912. Moreover the tax imposed on business offices, manufacturing plants or shops was reduced from \$50 to \$30, for the cities of Montreal and Quebec, and from \$20 to \$15 for the other municipalities. This tax had not been modified since 1882.

The above changes had the effect of considerably reducing the tax on companies. The following table prepared from names of companies doing business in Montreal and Quebec, taken at random in the Public Accounts of 1911 and 1915, will clearly prove our statement.

Taxes collected from Commercial corporations:

	1910-11	1914-15
Henry Birks & Sons	675.00	530.00
British American Bank Note Co.	100.00	80.00
Christie, Brown & Co.	193.75	135.00
Dupuis Frères	205.00	150.30
Gault Bros.	912.50	727.40
Greenshields Ltd.	1,137.50	890.00
Gunn, Langlois & Co.	268.75	170.95
Hudon, Hebert & Cie.	612.50	480.00
Lake of Woods Milling Co.	725.00	560.00
Lamontagne Ltée.	351.25	262.80
Lymans Ltd.	584.06	447.25
Henry Morgan Co.	1,027.58	852.30
The James Robertson Co.	431.83	347.23
Singer Sewing Machine Co.	1,120.00	740.00
J. C. Wilson & Co.	1,340.00	1,068.42
Chinie Hardware Co.	337.50	240.00
Garneau Ltée.	537.50	425.00

Holt Renfrew & Co.....	850.00	700.00
La Cie B. Houde.....	675.00	530.00
La Cie Paquet Ltée.....	1,388.77	1,024.35
Seifert & Sons Co.....	112.50	80.00

Below is a table showing the amount of taxes paid, previous to and after the amendment of 1912, by commercial corporations with business offices in the cities of Montreal and Quebec or elsewhere in the Province:

Capital	1st July, 1912		1st July, 1913	
	Montreal and Quebec	Elsewhere	Montreal and Quebec	Elsewhere
\$ 1,000.00	\$ 51.25	\$ 21.25	\$ 31.00	\$ 16.00
5,000.00	56.25	26.25	35.00	20.00
10,000.00	62.50	32.50	40.00	25.00
25,000.00	81.25	51.25	55.00	40.00
50,000.00	112.50	82.50	80.00	65.00
75,000.00	143.75	113.75	105.00	90.00
100,000.00	175.00	145.00	130.00	115.00
150,000.00	237.50	207.50	180.00	165.00
200,000.00	300.00	270.00	230.00	215.00
300,000.00	425.00	395.00	330.00	315.00
500,000.00	675.00	645.00	530.00	515.00
600,000.00	800.00	770.00	630.00	615.00
750,000.00	987.50	957.50	780.00	765.00
1,000,000.00	1,300.00	1,270.00	1,030.00	1,015.00
1,500,000.00	1,550.00	1,520.00	1,530.00	1,515.00
2,000,000.00	1,800.00	1,770.00	2,030.00	2,015.00
3,000,000.00	2,300.00	2,270.00	3,030.00	3,015.00
5,000,000.00	3,300.00	3,270.00	5,030.00	5,015.00
10,000,000.00	5,800.00	5,770.00	10,030.00	10,015.00

It has been said that the tax on corporations is calculated to discourage industry and to drive it to other provinces. This pretension does not hold and the official statistics and the testimony of our adversaries plainly show its fallacy.

L'Evenement on the 23rd May, 1914, expressly declared. The industrial capital of the province in increasing by leaps and bounds from day to day; New companies are more and more numerous.

Another Conservative newspaper, "The Gazette," made the same statement in its issues of the 30th November, 1914, 4th January and 11th January, 1916.

Let us see what statistics have to say:

In 1895-96, the Provincial Government incorporated 19 companies with an aggregate capital stock of \$1,814,760.00;

Now in 1909-10, 180 new companies were incorporated with an aggregate capital stock of \$28,374,765.00, in 1911-12 247 with an aggregate capital stock of \$30,239,746.75 and in 1912-13, 393 with an aggregate capital stock of \$39,408,414.00.

It is impossible to make any comparison with the Province of Ontario, for in that Province, as L'Evenement rightfully said in the article just above quoted, all companies must be incorporated by the Legislature and companies incorporated by Federal Letters patent must apply for a new incorporation to the Toronto Government if they desire to do business in that Province. No such obligation exists in Quebec.

The tax on commercial corporations has yielded:

In Ontario	per head	in Quebec	per head
1913-14		1914-15	
\$1,386,308.68	0.53	\$982,977.87	0.44

THE TAX ON STOCK OPERATIONS

In the programme-speech which he delivered at Montreal on 5th April, 1905, Mr. Gouin said:

"There can be no question of *reviving the taxes of 1892*. The electors will not have it and they showed it in very express manner by their verdict in 1897."

"There is one tax, however, which seems to be demanded by the popular wish and which would be a great help to our Treasury; the tax on Stock Exchange transactions. The thing is practicable; it exists in several countries in Europe. Will the Government have that tax enacted? Suffice it to tell you that it is studying that important question."

As already stated, the Gouin Government did not revive the taxes of 1892 abolished before 1905.

But, as it had given it to be understood, it had at once enacted a tax on Stock Exchange transactions. To blame the Government for this would come with bad grace from Conservatives and Nationalists. This tax was voted without opposition on the part of the Conservatives. And, on the other hand, it was favored by Mr. Bourassa, who said at Quebec, in 1903:

"We might, without harming public morals, subject to taxation Stock Exchange operations."

The revenue from this tax which had yielded \$70,793 in 1912-13, fell off to \$53,870 in 1913-14 and to \$20,369 in 1914-15.

Let us add that the Ontario Government has imposed a similar tax.

AUTOMOBILE LICENSES

The Government also had an act passed requiring owners and chauffeurs of automobiles to take out a license for driving those vehicles over the roads of the Province. But that obligation was imposed, not for the purpose of increasing the revenue, but to protect the public. Since then, it has been found that the automobile is the vehicle which does most damage to the roads and the price of the license was raised. It should be added that the Automobilists' Association agreed to this increase on the condition that the proceeds should be applied to the improvement of the roads. And this was the reason why the Government had a law passed last session appropriating to road improvements the revenue from automobile licenses.

As automobiling has become the vogue in our Province, as well as all over Canada, the revenue of this tax, which amounted to \$26,618.59 in 1910-11, reached the figure of \$180,224.67 in 1914-15. This tax is imposed in all the Provinces of the Dominion, and the Ontario Government which, last year, derived a revenue of \$300,000 from this source, has just increased the rate of taxation by nearly 40 per cent, so as to cause to flow annually in the Treasury a sum of one-half million of dollars.

In our Province the monies collected for automobile licenses are applied to the improvement of roads. Now, supposing that it would take 2 per cent. yearly to redeem the loans made for the improvement of roads \$180,000 would be sufficient to redeem \$9,000,000.00.

LICENSES FOR PUBLIC LAUNDRIES

There are many Chinese who amass in their trade as laundrymen, small fortunes which they later take with them to their own country, or send to their relatives, who while re-

siding in this country buy as little as possible and economize greatly. There is no class of people who contribute so little to the Public Treasury as the Chinese. Returning, the greater number of them, to die in their own country they are not affected by the tax on successions. Not constituting themselves into commercial corporations, they do not pay the tax on such corporations. However, they enjoy the liberties of our laws, and the State guarantees the protection of their persons. It is but just that they be put on an equal footing with other citizens of this province and contribute their share to the Public Treasury. To remedy that anomaly, the Gouin Government in the session of 1915, passed an act imposing a license fee on public laundries.

Who can justly blame him? Never was a license more legitimate than this.

PERMITS TO PRIVATE DETECTIVES

At the request of labor associations, and in the indisputable interest of the public, the Government also passed an Act in virtue of which, persons desiring to operate a detective agency must obtain a permit from the Department of the Provincial Treasurer. This act received the approval of two Opposition members, Messrs. Prevost and Lavergne, who declared that the time had come for the Government to establish a certain control over private detectives operating in the Province. As may easily be seen it was not so much the imposing of a tax that the Government had in view as the means of controlling private detective agencies. These permits, which also exist in Ontario and Manitoba, will yield at the very most one thousand dollars to the Public Treasury for the year 1915-16..

BOARD OF CENSORS OF MOVING PICTURE FILMS.

With a view of safe-guarding public morals, the Government has established a board of censors charged to examine all moving picture films exhibited in theatres or halls in the Province, and to prohibit their circulation whenever there was sufficient cause. A light contribution is imposed on each film submitted to the Board for examination.

Amongst the many congratulations received by the Government, we publish below a resolution of the "St. James Methodist Church" which reads as follows:

Resolved, "that this society desires to express its appreciation of the appointment of a Board of Censors of moving picture shows, and that this Society also desires to express its entire satisfaction with the personnel of the Board as appointed." Here again, the principle which moved the Government is most commendable, to control so as to moralize.

LICENSES ON AUTOMATIC DISTRIBUTORS

In 1914-15, the Legislature also imposed a license fee on automatic distributors. The machines in question are those which by the introduction of a coin or counter automatically delivers a determinate article: package of gum, box of matches, package of cigarettes, etc.

Let us note, however, that all machines, the operation of which depends on hazard, are games of chance, and as such, fall under the penal law, consequently this license does not apply to such machines for in so doing it would somehow legalize them.

By imposing the obligation to procure a license for operating any of such automatic distributors, the chief purpose of the Government was to regulate such machines, a few of which, it seems, are not absolutely honest and to hinder their spreading in the Province.

From a social point of view, the Government is perfectly right. Even admitting the perfect honesty of such distributors, that is to say, the delivery of merchandise of exact value to the coin inserted, it can justly be said that they take the place of human labour and in that sense, lessens the people's chances to secure employment.

If, to obtain this economical purpose, the Government has deemed fit to impose a license fee of \$4.00 on each machine, it is rather to pay the costs of regulation than with a view of deriving revenue therefrom, which revenue will certainly never reach a very considerable amount. This license may yield a sum of about \$2,000 for the year 1915-16.

LICENSES FOR THE SALE OF SPIRITUOUS LIQUOR AND
TEMPERANCE

During the session of 1913-14 the Gouin Government modified the License Law, in accordance with the suggestions contained in a report carefully prepared by a Royal Commission composed of the Honourable Justices Carroll, Cross and Tessier, and Mr. Brosnan, Comptroller of Inland Revenue.

Among the numerous changes made it is well to note especially the reduction of the number of licensed restaurants to 50 for Quebec, and 350 for Montreal. The following are a few of the most important other modifications made to the License Law:

"Bars," that is places where liquor is sold over the counter, will gradually be suppressed to give place to "cafes," wherein the clients will be served at tables. This provision only applies to the cities of Quebec and Montreal. In future, grocers licensed to sell spirituous liquors must keep their stock of liquors in a separate apartment. This provision shall not apply, however, before the 1st of May, 1915, to grocers whose licenses have been renewed.

The opening of restaurants, bars and licensed groceries takes place at half-past seven o'clock in the morning, instead of seven o'clock.

Grocers cannot deliver liquor after seven o'clock in the evening, on Saturdays, even if same was ordered before that hour. Labour Day and Confederation Day have been added to the days on which it is prohibited to sell liquor. Licensed grocers are liable the same as restaurant owners, for all accidents to health and sickness which may have been caused by the consumption of liquors, to the person who bought such liquor from said grocers and the representatives of such persons have a recourse for damages against grocers. No license shall be granted to an establishment situate at a less distance than two hundred feet from a convent, college, school or church. Penalties for the selling of liquor without a license are rendered more severe. The sale of liquor in houses of ill-fame will not be punished by a fine, but renders the person committing the offence liable to imprisonment.

Finally, it is prohibited to ship spirituous liquors to localities

wherein the sale of such liquor is prohibited by the municipal authorities, unless the package containing such liquor be openly and conspicuously addressed to the purchaser.

The sale of temperance beverages containing over one and a half per cent of alcohol is forbidden.

A perusal of the following testimonials is sufficient to convince us that this law gave full satisfaction to the most zealous partisans of temperance. Mgr. Bruchesi said at Montreal (Montreal Star, 12th January, 1916) "We need the assistance of the civic powers to stop the ravages of intemperance. The assistance so far received has exceeded our hopes. I warmly congratulate the Quebec Government for its new projected measure on temperance and do hope it will become law. I also sincerely compliment the Royal Commission for their excellent report."

Mr. John H. Roberts, Secretary of the Dominion Alliance, admitted to the Montreal Herald of the 8th December, 1915:

"We temperance reformers, have in Sir Lomer Gouin, the Premier of this Province, a tried and true friend. He has been instrumental in giving this Province many valuable and effective pieces of temperance legislation. In doing this, he has had a most difficult task. He bravely passed measure after measure of temperance reform. He is the best friend of temperance this province ever had."

We might also add a great number of absolutely disinterested testimonials.

Do we wish to know the happy results achieved up to the present, thanks to the temperance legislation passed by the Gouin Government?

On the 30th June, 1892, there were, in this Province, 945 hotels licensed to sell spirituous liquors and 363 restaurants, which was equivalent to one hotel or restaurant for each group of 1138 souls. Ten years later, in 1902, there were 1074 hotels and 476 restaurants—say a hotel or restaurant per 1128 souls. Lastly, on the 30th June, 1915, there remained but 645 hotels and 282 restaurants: namely, a hotel or restaurant per 2160 souls.

From the 1st July, 1905, to the 1st July, 1915, (ten years) the number of hotels licensed to sell spirituous liquors has decreased by 438 or 67%; that of restaurants by 240 or 85%; and lastly, that of wholesale and retail liquor stores by 125 or

15%. Whilst from 1892 to 1905 (13 years), the number of hotels had increased by 185, or 16 1-4 per cent, that of restaurants by 108, or 23% and that of wholesale and retail liquor stores by 177, or 17%.

From 1901 to 1911, our population increased by 21 1/2% when in the same period the number of hotels, restaurants, and liquor stores decreased by 16 3-4%.

It should be noted that the 73 restaurants which have been suppressed in the city of Montreal, on the 1st May, 1915, and the 50 others which will disappear on the 1st May, 1916, are not included in the above figures.

The following statement of the fines collected during the past four years also gives an idea of the activity of the revenue officers in enforcing the license law:

1911-12.....	\$ 30,257.62
1912-13.....	29,941.26
1913-14.....	34,783.44
1914-15.....	56,830.46

The Action Sociale, in its issue of the 10th November, 1913, expressed itself as follows: The Montreal Gazette is of opinion that during the year now ending, the License Law has been better observed than ever in the city of Montreal. A notable improvement is also apparent at Quebec, and in the neighborhood, thanks to the particular watchfulness of the authorities.

In certain quarters, the present government is reproached with having considerably increased the price of hotel and other licenses.

They seem to forget a very important item and that is the number of licenses having been reduced notwithstanding the increase in population, it is but just that the licensees pay more for the privilege of selling liquors. Besides, the following statistics taken from the P. A., answer their reproach.

Revenue From Licenses for the Sale of Liquors.

1885-86.....	\$257,559.44	about \$0.18	per head
1895-96.....	588,552.65	"	0.38 "
1905-06.....	657,610.39	"	0.36 "
1910-11.....	733,950.32	"	0.36 "
1914-15.....	823,235.10	"	0.41 "

It must not be forgotten that in 1885, the revenue from licenses was equivalent to $14\frac{1}{2}\%$ of the total revenue of the Province, when in 1915, it only amounts to 11 1-3 % of the total revenue.

ECONOMY IN EXPENDITURE

Like Mr. Marchand, Mr. Gouin promised to practise economy and this promise like the others has been kept.

The Conservatives say that the expenses have been from year to year increased since 1897 and they conclude from this that the Liberal party have squandered money and have not practised economy.

Practising economy does not mean reducing expenditure.

Has it ever been proved that the present Government has squandered the revenues of the province?

Has not the increase in expenditure since 1897 been justifiable, inevitable, even necessary?

Justifiable that increase was, since, as we shall show, it relates chiefly to the appropriations for Public Instruction, Colonization, Agriculture, and Charitable Institutions.

Inevitable, even necessary, that increase was equally so on account of the development of the province and of the increase of its population.

If the ordinary expenditure of 1897 and 1915 be compared with the figure of the population at each of those epochs, it will be found the expenditure was :

In 1897, equal to	\$2.95	per head
In 1915, equal to	4.15	"
An increase of	\$1.20	"

But it must not be forgotten that from 1897 to 1915, the increase was solely on the appropriations for . .

Public Instruction	\$1,066,664.80
Agriculture	167,705.20
Roads (Budget)	341,151.00

Total.....\$1,575,521.00
About \$0.80 per head.

Note also by the way that when the Government expended \$4.15 per head in 1915, its revenue amounted to \$4.79 per head, while in 1897, \$2.95 per head was expended, when the revenue was only \$2.44 per head.

INCREASE OF REVENUE

COLLECTION OF AMOUNTS DUE

Before the elections of 1897, the Conservatives removed some of the taxes which they had imposed in 1892.

From 1892 to 1896, these taxes had yielded an average of \$350,000 a year.

The Liberals did not revive these taxes.

Under the Conservative regime, no concern was taken with regard to the public interest; the collection of sums due to the Government was suspended, when political ends were to be observed. Here is a very characteristic example of their style of doing business.

Under the terms of the law, the accounts for yearly contributions which the municipalities are called upon to pay for the lunatic asylums and reformatory schools, must be sent them at the end of January, by the Deputy Provincial Secretary.

Now at the end of January, 1897, the general elections were imminent, the hour was about to strike when the "taxers" would have to render account of their failure to carry out their pledges.

Mr. Hackett was then Provincial Secretary. Like a prudent man, he thought it would be a good thing to suspend the collection of contributions due by municipalities.

On the 29th January, 1897, he sent the following despatch from Stanstead to his Deputy Minister, Mr. Jos. Boivin:

"Do not send out accounts against municipalities until you hear from me."

On the same day, Mr. Hackett wrote to his Deputy Minister:

Stanstead, Que., 29th January, 1897.

My dear Sir,

I do not think it *prudent at the present time* to enforce collections from counties. Let it remain until I see you, please.

Sincerely yours,
(Signed) M. F. HACKETT.

Those two documents form part of official record No. 404 of the archives of the Provincial Secretary's Department for the year 1897.

On the wrapper of the record are the following notes :

3rd February, 1897.

" Let the collection of these accounts await further orders.

M. F. H.,
P. S.

" Go on. 13th May, 1897. :

M. F. H.

It is needless to recall that a general election took place on the 11th May, 1897.

Thus did the "honest men" carry on the elections.

It was in this way that the collection of the amounts due to the province was carried on.

The Liberal Governments have followed an entirely different line of conduct since 1897 and it is due to their vigilance and their initiative that the ordinary revenue has increased so largely

Statement of the Ordinary Revenue

1896-97.....	\$3,874,966.22
1905-06.....	5,340,166.88
1914-15.....	9,597,925.67

Increase from 1897 to 1915: \$5,722,959.45 or 148 %.

Increase from 1905 to 1915, \$4,257,758.79 or 80%

REVENUE FROM PUBLIC DOMAIN

The Opposition keep on repeating that if the receipts have

increased, it is simply because the taxes have produced more. Now here are statements which contradict these contentions of our adversaries.

Revenue from Fish and Game.

1896-97.....	\$ 24,574.80
1905-06.....	69,141.07
1914-15.....	116,480.58

Increase from 1897 to 1915: \$91,905.78, or 374%

Increase from 1905 to 1915: \$47,339.51, or 68%.

Revenue from Mines

1896-97.....	\$ 1,821.00
1905-06.....	43,536.10
1914-15.....	15,955.15

Increase from 1897 to 1915: \$14,134.15 or 776%.

Lands and Forests

1896-97.....	\$ 853,497.46
1905-06.....	1,395,248.82
1914-15.....	1,840,347.45

Increase from 1897 to 1915: \$986,849.99, or 115%

Increase from 1905 to 1915: \$445,098.63, or 32%.

Revenue from Whole Public Domain

1896-97.....	\$ 879,893.26
1905-06.....	1,507,925.99
1914-15.....	1,987,582.01

Increase from 1897 to 1915: \$1,107,688.75, or 125%.

Increase from 1905 to 1915: \$478,656.02, or 32%.

RE-ADJUSTMENT OF THE FEDERAL SUBSIDY

But the Liberals have not only striven to obtain greater revenues from our public domain; they have not only striven

to collect all amounts due the Province; they have also succeeded in assuring a considerable increase in yearly revenue from the province by obtaining the re-adjustment of the Federal subsidies.

IT IS THE WORK OF THE LIBERALS

We may proclaim it with pride that a Liberal Government commenced the efficacious agitation which was to solve this important problem, and that it was by a Liberal Government it was brought to a successful issue.

It was a Liberal, M. Joly, who, in 1875, when the de Boucherville Government was floundering in financial embarrassment, proposed to make appeal to Ottawa.

It was a liberal Mr. Mercier, who, in 1881, said to the Legislative Assembly:

"We have entered into confederation under very unfavorable conditions, and we have right to an additional subsidy".

It is the same liberal Mr. Mercier, who, in 1883, adjured the Mousseau Government to ask for an increase of subsidies loyally offering him the help of our party. "We will succeed," said he, "if we unite our forces,". And Mr. Mousseau replied:

"We must be prudent. Confederation was made for us; to meddle with it would be dangerous".

It is again Mr. Mercier, who, when he came to power, took the only practical means to succeed; to organize a united movement of all the Provinces. And if the conference of 1887 was not immediately followed by the settlement of the question of better terms, it was because the Tories were then in power at Ottawa, that Sir John A. MacDonald was hostile to Provincial rights, and that the Conservatives of our Province feared to embarrass him by making common cause with the Liberals.

It is still a Liberal, Mr. Parent, who, taking up the question again in 1902, put it once more before the public by convening a new conference and by joining the latter to the resolutions of 1887.

Finally, it is to a Liberal, Mr. Gouin, that belongs the merit of having by his ability and steadfast work succeeded in causing

the triumph of the Provinces; as it is to a Liberal Sir Wilfred Laurier, that belongs the glory of having right done to his claims.

Mr. Gouin the organizer of the victory

That Mr. Gouin organized the final victory, even the most malignant cannot seriously deny.

For, in October, 1905, the Prime Minister of Ontario, Mr. Whitney, notified the public that the fate of the Provinces was in the hands of Mr. Gouin and of Sir Wilfred Laurier.

"Will you participate in the conference respecting the federal subsidy? we asked Mr. Whitney:

"I do not know that there is to be a new one, he replied, *The question is presently between the Prime Minister of the Province of Quebec and the Prime Minister of Canada.* The latter will no doubt be pressed to act by the former. We have nothing to say about it. If we are called on by Sir Wilfred respecting the matter we will willingly respond to his appeal. For my part I am entirely in accord with the Honourable Mr. Gouin in his claims in this respect. Ontario has no reason to be indifferent. (*La Patrie*, 11th Oct., 1905).

The "Mail and Empire" of Toronto, was not less explicit: This is what it published the day following the conference of October, 1906:

"A general conference of all the governments, that means the meeting of several of the best men in Canadian politics, and rarely does a similar occasion happen to measure their strength and their influence. As president of the conference and as instigator of the present movement in favor of a financial readjustment, Mr. Gouin naturally occupied a prominent position, and, from the beginning to the end, he showed himself determined to obtain, at any cost, a financial readjustment."

And again, a newspaper whose impartiality cannot be doubted "La Semaine Religieuse de Québec," said on the 20th October, 1906:

"If as we believe the Provinces finally receive from the Federal Government the financial aid they justly lay claim to,

they shall owe—and especially the Province of Quebec—a debt of gratitude to the Honorable Mr. Gouin, who has gone into this important question as if it were his personal affair, since his entry into the Provincial administration, of which he is to-day the head”.

The “La Semaine Religieuse de Quebec” did not exaggerate: Mr Gouin had really gone into this question as if it were his personal affair.

In 1902, he had taken an active part in the Quebec Interprovincial Conference and, in the following year, he published a remarkable treatise whose title: “*Question Actuelle... Le Remaniement des Subsidies Fédéraux en faveur des Provinces*” (“The Question of the Hour. The Re-adjustment of the Federal Subsidies in favor of the Provinces”) was alone a profession of faith. Thus, when he became Premier, he made the question one of the principal items of his programme. Let us read these passages from his speech outlining his programme:

“... Our needs are pressing. Education, agriculture, colonization, require immediate encouragement which we cannot give because our revenues are too limited.

“There is one revenue, however, that might, that should be increased at once and that is the Federal subsidy.....

We claim that increase in the Federal subsidy, with our sister provinces, not as alms, but as a just debt of the payment whereof will enable us to satisfy popular needs, ideas and wishes and to labor more effectively for the advancement and prosperity of our beloved country.”

From that moment, his mind seemed possessed with this idea, The Federal Subsidy must be increased. On every occasion when he had to deliver an address; at public meetings, at banquets, at receptions in educational institutions, always and everywhere he returned to the subject. He was the man with one idea; he wished to carry it out; he had confidence in its triumph. “We shall succeed,” he said one day.

But Mr. Gouin was not content with speaking, he acted.

The surest way to obtain success was to organize a concerted movement by all the provinces. He set at once to work and rallied together the Governments of the sister provinces.

He afterwards got the Legislature and the Boards of Trade of our Province to pass resolutions in favor of the re-adjustment of the subsidy.

Sir Wilfred Laurier responded to the appeal and called a Conference of the Prime Ministers of the Provinces.

After a week's deliberations the latter were assured by the Federal Government that the subsidies would be readjusted and increased.

In the spring of 1907, the Federal Parliament, at the request of Sir Wilfred Laurier, voted an address to His Majesty the King, praying him to amend the act of 1867 according to the terms of the resolutions of the Interprovincial Conference.

Mr. Gouin did not, however, consider his task ended. He went at once to England to press and watch the adoption of the remedial measure.

Thanks to his efforts, the measure was adopted, as asked for, in the session held in the summer of 1907, and it was especially provided in it that it should take effect from the 1st July, 1907, although voted only at the end of August. As the new subsidies are payable in advance and by yearly instalments, Mr. Gouin's efforts have thus made the Province gain at least one instalment of the additional subsidy, say, nearly \$300,000.00.

Effect of the Readjustment.

Previous to 1st July, 1907, the Province of Quebec received, under the constitutional act of 1867, a yearly subsidy of \$70,000 for the maintenance of its Government and Legislature and a yearly subsidy of 80 cents per head of its population of 1861, equal to \$889,252.80. These two subsidies aggregating \$959,252.80, were fixed and remain the same whatever might be the increase of the population.

This subsidy was becoming more and more insufficient.

Owing to the increase of the population since 1861, the *per capita* subsidy of \$889,252.80 no longer represented more than 54 cents per head of the population in 1901. In other words, if the *per capita* subsidy had been as it is to-day 80 cents per head of the population as ascertained by each decennial census,

the province of Quebec would, from 1867 to 1907, have received \$8,100,216 more.

The amendment of 1907 was to the following effect:

1. The Province of Quebec now receives \$240,000.00 instead of \$70,000.00 for the support of its Government and Legislature. This subsidy is fixed.

2. It receives further 80 cts. per head of its population as ascertained by each decennial census. However, when the population shall have exceeded 2,500,000 souls, the subsidy will be 80 cts. per head on 2,500,000 and 60 cts. per head on the excess.

Under the readjustment of the law, we have, since 1st July, 1907, to 1st July, 1911, received annually \$599,865.60 more than we received before. The readjustment has therefore brought us during the last four years an increase of \$2,399,462.40 in our revenue.

From 1st July, 1911 to 1st July, 1921, we shall receive annually \$884,991.20 more than we would have received without the readjustment or a total of \$8,849,912.00 for the whole decade.

\$884,991.20 a year. That represents exactly the yearly interest payable on our consolidated debt.

And the subsidy will again increase at each subsequent census with the figure of the population.

What Prime Minister ever carried so advantageous a financial operation for our provinces?

And this operation is not only advantageous from a financial point of view, but more especially so for the autonomy of the Province. This increase of revenue secures to a greater extent the respect of this autonomy. Let us add that in the autumn of 1913, a new interprovincial conference took place at Ottawa.

Sir Lomer Gouin and Sir James Whitney alleged new reasons for a re-adjustment of the Federal subsidy. The Prime Minister of Canada, Sir Robert Borden, on persual of the factum submitted to him, expressly declared that the British North America Act should be amended so as to provide for a periodi-

cal readjustment of the financial conditions made to the provinces by the central government.

Sir Robert Borden has not yet deemed proper to put his word into act.

PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

In his speech outlining his programme, Sir Lomer Gouin had placed Public Instruction in the first rank, and he has kept his word. No government has ever done as much for the development and advancement of education. The official figures prove this in an irrefutable manner.

GRANTS FOR PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

1891-92.....	\$ 465,482.11
1895-96.....	389,550.76
1904-05.....	483,460.00
1905-06.....	534,460.18
1906-07.....	538,949.50
1907-08.....	561,960.00
1908-09.....	737,600.00
1909-10.....	783,592.88
1910-11.....	969,390.09
1911-12.....	1,177,233.06
1912-13.....	1,383,415.31
1913-14.....	1,435,515.26
1914-15.....	1,452,772.90

That is to say that since he is at the head of the Province the Government has spent \$9,574,889.18 for public instruction.

Decrease from 1892 to 1896.....	\$ 75,931.35 or 16%
Increase from 1896 to 1905.....	93,909.24 or 24%
Increase from 1905 to 1915.....	969,312.90 or 200%
Increase from 1896 to 1915.....	1,063,222.14 or 273%

Thus the grants had decreased under the Conservatives. They are now nearly three times as considerable as in 1905 and nearly 3½ times as considerable as in 1896.

The above figures \$1,452,772.90 do not include the whole amount voted for educational purposes. To have the whole amount the following appropriations should be added:

	1915-16	1895-96
Agricultural schools.....	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 19,800.00
Veterinary schools.....	5,500.00	4,000.00
Housekeeping schools.....	12,000.00	1,300.00
Dairy schools.....	8,000.00	2,000.00
Forestry school.....	8,000.00	nil
School of Surveying.....	5,000.00	nil
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 68,500.00	\$ 27,100.00

Making another increase of \$41,400 or 152%.

GRANTS TO PRIMARY SCHOOLS

The primary school is the basis of our educational system and the Government has not forgotten it.

For over 30 years, the appropriation voted annually for public schools was \$160,000.

In 1911, the Gouin Government raised that appropriation to \$200,000, an increase of \$40,000.

This sum of \$200,000 is distributed to all the schools in the province under the control of commissioners in proportion to the number of school children inscribed on the registers.

But, the Government wished, above all, to aid the rural municipalities and to that end it added other appropriations.

Thus, in 1908, an appropriation of \$50,000 was established in favor of rural municipalities which pay each of their teachers a minimum salary of \$100. Later this minimum was raised to \$120.00.

In 1909, this appropriation was increased to	\$ 75,000
In 1910, it was increased to.....	100,000
In 1911, it was increased to.....	125,000

Later new appropriations were created in favor of municipalities: one of \$60,000 to be distributed to rural municipalities which pay each of their teachers a minimum salary of \$150; another of \$30,000 to be distributed to rural municipalities which pay at least \$175 to each of their teachers; and a third of \$10,000 to those which pay \$200.00 to each of their teachers.

Thus, instead of sharing, with the cities and towns, in the

distribution of \$160,000, the rural municipalities now share in the distribution of \$200,000; and, moreover, they share in the distribution of \$225,000 between them, on the sole condition of paying a minimum salary to their teachers.

RESULTS

The efforts that the Government has made to promote the work of the primary school and, more especially, to increase the salaries of the teachers, have produced happy results.

Here is a comparative table of the average salaries of the lay teachers for the last five years:

	1909-10	1910-11	1911-12	1912-13	1913-14
Catholic schools:					
Male teachers.....	\$649.00	\$657.00	\$646.00	\$703.00	\$723.00
Female teachers.....	139.00	143.00	147.00	163.00	179.00
Protestant schools:					
Male teachers.....	1,284.00	1,116.00	1,200.00	1,300.00	1,482.00
Female teachers.....	383.00	319.00	393.00	469.00	503.00
Catholic schools and Protestant schools:					
Male teachers.....	803.00	824.00	812.00	888.00	937.00
Female teachers.....	183.00	178.00	196.00	224.00	245.00

To be convinced that the salary of the teachers has increased to a considerable extent since several years, it suffices to refer in good faith to the tables which we have just published. That such salary is not sufficient remuneration and that the Government is endeavoring every day to increase it by all possible means, is certain. But to maintain that the Government should be held responsible for the "starvation salaries paid to those teaching the young", according to Mr. Cousineau, is a statement made either in bad faith or dense ignorance. The teachers are engaged and paid directly by the school commissions which act in full liberty. The Government has nothing whatever to do with the engagements entered into between the school commissioners and the masters or mistresses. The only intervention possible was precisely that which it took by instituting the policy of bonuses in favor of the municipal-

ities paying suitable salaries to the teachers. The Government thus only merits congratulations for its laudable initiative.

BONUSES TO TEACHERS

The Liberal Government has done more to improve the lot of the teachers. From 1897 it gave a bonus of \$20 to those who were found most deserving by the school inspectors.

From 1906, the Gouin Government, in order to encourage teachers to persevere in their career, decided to give a further grant of \$20 or \$25 to teachers who taught for 10, 15 or 20 years.

As such amounts were paid out of the fund of the elementary schools, it created, in 1913, a special credit of \$30,000 for this purpose.

The following statement shows the number of teachers who received a bonus each year for having persevered in teaching and the amounts paid them by the Government:

In 1906-07, 724 male and female teachers.....	\$	12,190.00
1907-08, 780 " " "		13,945.00
1908-09, 1427 " " "		28,045.00
1909-10, 1473 " " "		28,945.00
1910-11, 1454 " " "		28,585.00
1911-12, 1459 " " "		29,500.00
1912-13, 1454 " " "		28,980.00
1913-14, 1469 " " "		29,394.00
1914-15, 1517 " " "		30,405.00
		<hr/>
		\$229,989.00

The following statement also shows the amount of the bonuses paid to the most deserving teachers:

1896-97.....	Nil.
1904-05.....	\$ 14,662.50
1911-12.....	16,000.00
1912-13.....	16,461.50
1913-14.....	16,397.50
1914-15.....	17,000.00

CONTRIBUTION TO THE TEACHERS' PENSION FUND.

In 1909, the Gouin Government increased by 50% the appropriation in aid of the teachers, pension fund.

In 1911, it had an enactment passed that, in future, the pension of a female teacher should not be under \$75.

In 1912, it had an enactment passed that the pension of a male teacher should be increased by 50% provided it shall not exceed \$300.00.

The amounts paid by the Government to the teachers' pension fund were as follows:

In 1913-14.....	\$ 39,666.00
In 1914-15.....	58,750.00

GRANTS TO ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

In 1897, an act was passed authorizing the Government to spend \$50,000 in aiding elementary schools.

Later, in 1905, the Gouin Government had that amount increased from \$50,000 to \$100,000 and, in 1907 to \$150,000.

Thus, still one more appropriation has been trebled.

GRANTS TO MODEL SCHOOLS AND ACADEMIES

Certain model schools and academies under the direction of religious institutions receive a special grant direct from the Government.

In 1904-05, the total appropriation voted for this grant was \$44,293.17.

In 1910-11 it was.....	\$ 46,692.68
In 1913-14 it was.....	84,936.00

The Catholic Committee of the Council of Public Instruction took advantage of this increase to change the method of distribution. At present, instead of giving \$50.00 to such a school and \$200 to another, it gives \$99.60 to each academy and \$66.40 to each model school.

SPECIAL GRANTS TO BOYS' MODEL SCHOOLS OR ACADEMIES TAUGHT BY MALE TEACHERS

In 1911, the Gouin Government had \$10,000 voted to encourage rural municipalities to entrust their boys' model

schools or academies to male teachers. This grant was later increased to \$14,000.00.

The conditions are as follows:

1. That the annual salary of the teacher with a diploma be \$400.00 at least;
2. That if there are more than one male teacher, each one shall receive a minimum salary of \$250.00.

In 1912-13, 88 municipalities have benefited by this grant and each one received \$115.38.

In 1913-14, 89, each one receiving, \$134.00 and in 1914-15, 99 received \$141.00 each.

AID TO POOR SCHOOLS.

The Gouin Government has not neglected poor municipalities.

Statement of amounts paid.

1895-96.....	\$ 13,558.33
1904-05.....	28,881.62
1910-11.....	78,449.43
1912-13.....	106,855.60
1913-14.....	120,995.00

BONUSES TO THE MOST DESERVING MUNICIPALITIES

In 1905, the Gouin Government decided to grant bonuses to school municipalities making the strongest efforts to promote the progress of education and to follow the school regulations.

The following statement shows the number of municipalities which have benefited by such bonuses every year and the amount paid them by the Government:

In 1906-07, 191 municipalities	\$8,285.00
1907-08, 201 "	8,715.00
1908-09, 206 "	9,005.00
1909-10, 219 "	9,390.00
1910-11, 225 "	9,670.00
1911-12, 233 "	10,635.00
1912-13, 227 "	10,630.00
1913-14, 226 "	10,840.00
1914-15, 224 "	11,685.00
1952	88,855.00

SCHOOL INSPECTION

To render the inspection of schools more efficient, the Government has compelled the inspectors to visit the schools of their districts at least twice a year, has increased their salaries and appointed two inspectors general, one for Catholic and the other for Protestant schools.

The amounts paid by the Government for the school inspection are:

1896.....	36,000.00
1904.....	36,000.00
1911.....	67,000.00
1912-13.....	75,000.00
1914-15.....	84,000.00

In 1912, two general inspectors, one for Catholics and the other for Protestants were appointed by the Government.

Their functions consist of superintending the work of school inspectors, to appreciate the services of each inspector, to inspect Normal schools, to see to the uniformity of school inspection, etc.

FOUNDATION OF NORMAL SCHOOLS

It is needless to lay stress on the importance of giving our teachers a good professional training. In all countries, the normal school is the nursery of good teachers. Therefore the Gouin Government deemed it a wise measure to found normal schools in all parts of the province.

The following table shows the importance of the work done by the Government of late years:

Number of Schools	Grants paid
In 1896 : Jacques-Cartier, for boys.....	} \$ 43,000.00
Laval, for boys.....	
Laval, for girls.....	
McGill, for boys and girls.....	
In 1905 : Jacques-Cartier, for boys.....	} 50,681.68
Laval, for boys.....	
Laval, for girls.....	
McGill, for boys and girls.....	
Jacques-Cartier, for girls.....	

In 1915 : Jacques-Cartier, for boys.....	}	135,000.00
Laval, for boys.....		
Laval, for girls.....		
Jacques-Cartier, for girls.....		
Macdonald, (in lieu of McGill), for boys and girls.....		
Rimouski, for girls.....		
Chicoutimi, for girls.....		
Nicolet, for girls.....		
Three Rivers, for girls.....		
Valleyfield, for girls.....		
Hull, for girls.....		
Saint Hyacinthe, for girls.....		
Joliette, for girls.....		
St. Pascal, for girls.....		

Moreover, the creation of a normal school at Sherbrooke, has been decided on, which will bring up to 15 the number of normal schools in the Province and to 10 the number of those founded by the Government. The latter, last year, raised the appropriation for normal schools to \$185,000.00.

Although these schools have been founded at rather recent dates, they have already had appreciable results, as the following statistics will show:

1. Number of girls attending Catholic normal schools:

Year 1895-96.....	144
1904-05.....	151
1910-11.....	507
1912-13.....	743
1913-14.....	918
1914-15.....	925

2. Number of pupils, boys and girls attending Catholic and Protestant normal schools.

Year 1895-96.....	369
1906-07.....	467
1910-11.....	828
1912-13.....	1088
1913-14.....	1260
1914-15.....	1312

3. Number of female lay teachers with normal school diplomas teaching in Catholic schools:

1895-96	200
1904-05	291
1910-11	522
1912-13	687
1913-14	845
1914-15	912

In addition to the above, about one hundred nuns, former graduates of normal schools are employed as teachers.

During the year 1914, out of 576 pupils with diplomas of the Catholic normal schools both for boys and girls, 137 have returned to school with a view of taking a higher grade and 323 have taken up the career of teaching, which is 73% of the number of pupils definitely out of normal schools.

BOY'S COMMERCIAL ACADEMIES

In 1908, the Gouin Government added a fresh appropriation to the Estimates to encourage the building and maintenance of new commercial academies for boys.

The appropriation has been increased from year to year and is now \$50,000.

Since 1908, the Government has given grants for building 115 commercial academies.

Statement of the grants paid to municipalities to encourage the building and maintenance of new commercial academies for boys:

1908-09	\$ 20,000.00
1909-10	20,000.00
1910-11	56,000.00
1911-12	78,500.00
1912-13	64,000.00
1913-14	99,250.00
1914-15	77,550.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 415,300.00

FREE DISTRIBUTION OF CLASS-BOOKS, PRIZE-BOOKS, MAPS, ETC.

From 1905 to 1914, the Government has had distributed gratuitously in all the public schools under the control of commissioners or trustees:

18,582 maps of the Province of Quebec
9,280 maps of the Dominion
8,061 planispheres
287,298 prize books

It should be added that, with the view of encouraging Canadian literature, the Government has made arrangements for the distribution of Canadian books especially, in future.

Since 1905, the Government has also had 705,008 copies of "Mon Premier Livre" distributed gratuitously. That class-book is in use in 3,799 public schools.

It should be also noted that, on the recommendation of the Council of Public Instruction, the Government had an act passed authorizing school boards to supply, wholly or in part, text-books to any children who attend the schools under their control; and such books shall be paid for out of the school funds of the municipalities."

GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTION FOR EVERY PUPIL OF THE ELEMENTARY AND MODEL SCHOOLS AND ACADEMIES

We have seen that, during the past years, the Government has greatly increased the appropriations for elementary and model schools and academies. Let us now compare the amounts of the grants to such schools with the number of pupils who attended them, in order to see what amount the province has contributed per pupil:

Years	Grant paid	Number of pupils	Contribution per pupil
1890-91.....	\$ 210,793.00	\$ 265,513.00	\$ 0.79
1895-96.....	215,220.00	293,584.00	0.73
1900-01.....	264,673.00	314,881.00	0.84
1905-06.....	314,557.00	341,808.00	0.92
1910-11.....	507,574.00	389,123.00	1.30
1911-12.....	632,200.00	400,000.00	1.58
1912-13.....	647,346.90	401,454.00	1.60
1914-15.....	683,284.25	410,000.00	1.66½

NIGHT SCHOOLS

The Gouin Government has not neglected to encourage the night schools which Mercier formerly established in this province.

The following statistics show that these schools are becoming more and more popular.

	Number of classes	Number of scholars	Grants paid
1895-96.....	34	1762	\$ 6,791.00
1913-14.....	179	6836	21,460.25

DRESS-CUTTING AND SEWING SCHOOLS

In 1897, the Marchand Government inaugurated schools in this province where dress-cutting and sewing are taught. The following statistics show the progress made in this teaching.

	Number of schools	Number of scholars	Grants
1896-97.....	none		
1897-98.....	1	48	\$ 300.00
1904-05.....	25	1485	6,400.00
1910-11.....	39	2344	9,985.00
1913-14.....	57	3176	14,835.00

SCHOOL OF ARTS AND MANUFACTURES

These schools have been in existence for a very long while. It must be said that they are losing their importance since the establishment of technical schools. They are, however, pretty well attended by workmen.

	Number of schools	Number of pupils	Grants
In 1895-96.....	7	851	\$ 10,000.00
1904-05.....	8	2059	15,000.00
1910-11.....	11	2533	16,000.00
1913-14.....	12	2634	16,000.00

FACTS AND FIGURES

That public instruction is making remarkable progress in this Province, is amply shown by the few following facts and

figures which we are pleased to set before the eyes of professional vilifiers.

Number of	1897-98	1902-03	1907-08	1912-13	1913-14
Elementary schools	5,132	5,385	5,601	5,827	5,880
Model schools	534	555	640	698	718
Academies	153	178	201	273	296
Colleges	22	19	19	20	21
Special schools	15	115	77	90	84
Normal schools	3	5	7	13	14
Universities	4	4	4	3	3
Totals	5,863	6,261	6,549	6,924	7,016

Amount of taxes and contributions paid by rate-payers.

In 1896-97	\$1,488,349.00
1904-05	2,199,371.00
1910-11	3,703,297.00
1911-12	4,188,225.00
1914-15	5,797,799.00

Value of school houses, furniture and school appliances in this province:

In 1896-97	\$13,150,699.00
1904-05	15,665,418.00
1910-11	30,755,014.00
1913-14	34,550,052.00
1914-15	38,956,221.00

Number of school houses built, amount expended and amount borrowed for building or repairing school houses:

	Houses built	Expenses	Loans
1896-97	164	\$ —	\$ —
1904-05	187	263,084	—
1905-06	236	397,257	327,533
1906-07	238	692,903	365,986
1907-08	299	688,407	523,992
1908-09	234	882,308	641,270
1909-10	332	576,338	816,512
1910-11	294	—	1,262,100
1913-14	305	1,117,895	—
1914-15	292	3,006,278	—

Number of schools houses in good order and of school's with appliances in good order:

ofess-

913-14

5,880
718
296
21
84
14
3

7,016

s.

es in

ount

	School houses in good order	Furniture in good order
1900-01.....	3,771	2,635
1904-05.....	4,506	4,494
1910-11.....	5,119	5,135
1913-14.....	4,465	4,846

EXTRACT FROM THE FIFTH BULLETIN OF THE CENSUS OF
CANADA 1912

Ontario remains at the head of the other provinces as to the percentage of persons aged five years and over who can read and write; whilst for the eastern provinces Quebec shows the *greatest proportional increase* from 1901 to 1911, as to that class of persons who can read and write.

1905-1915. *Some Statistics—A Decade of Progress.* During the past 20 years, marked and constant progress has been made in school matters in the Province of Quebec, but especially since 1905.

The following statistics are eloquent:

	1904-1905	1913-1914
Total cost of education in the Province of Quebec.....	\$4,084,518.00	\$9,291,341.00
Government grants.....	480,760.00	1,724,110.00
Contributions by municipalities.....	2,199,371.00	6,338,869.00
Grants to Universities.....	16,200.00	77,500.00
Amounts spent by municipalities for school houses.....	325,522.00	1,117,895.00
Government aid to municipalities.....	28,881.00	30,000.00
Public Schools fund.....	160,000.00	200,000.00
Bonuses to municipalities.....		225,000.00
	1905	1912-13
Bonuses to teachers.....	14,662.00	45,791.00
Contribution to Pension Fund.....	13,000.00	29,000.00

	1905	1913-14
Grants to normal schools.....	\$ 53,500.00	\$120,000.00
Number of school municipalities.....	1,425	1,570
Number of school districts.....	6,040	6,601
Number of schools under control.....	6,288	6,617
Number of schools of all kinds.....	6,427	7,016
Number of pupils.....	355,213	459,755
Intermediate primary (model) schools.....	587	671
Primaries superior schools (academies).....	184	296
Pupils in intermediate and superior schools.....	126,055	191,288
Average attendance (elementary schools).....	72.08	75.67
Average attendance in schools of all kinds.....	76.07	79.17
Students in normal schools.....	416	1,088

	1905	1914
Central Board : increase in number of higher diplomas:		
Model school diplomas.....	571	977
Academy diplomas.....	28	187

Pupils in Catholic Primary Schools:	1905	1913
In the 4th year.....	27,138	37,133
" 5th ".....	11,431	15,367
" 6th ".....	6,167	7,846
" 7th ".....	2,163	3,638
" 8th ".....	1,168	1,821

Students in special schools:	1905	1913
Universities, colleges, etc., etc.....	19,445	22,329

Average salaries:		
Male teachers.....	\$ 695.00	\$ 888.00
Female teachers.....	150.00	224.00
Female teachers receiving less than one hundred dollars.....	766	10

UNIVERSITIES

Until 1912, the province gave an annual grant of \$4,000 to Laval University in Quebec, a grant of \$8,000 to Laval University in Montreal and its faculties of Law and Medicine; a grant

of \$3,000 to McGill University, and one of \$1,200 to Bishop's College Lennoxville. The grants voted were certainly not proportionate to the services rendered by those institutions; therefore the Government thought, last session that it should grant them more substantial aid.

The universities of Laval, in Quebec, Laval, in Montreal, and McGill now receive \$25,000 each and Bishop's College \$2,500.

The appropriations to Universities now amounts to \$77,500, namely \$61,300 more than in the past.

SCHOOL OF SURVEYING, QUEBEC.

In 1897, the Gouin Government founded a school of surveying in Quebec. This school, which gives a complete course of surveying is to some extent a faculty of Laval University in Quebec. The Government pays it a yearly grant of \$5,000. It is attended by from 20 to 30 students.

MONTREAL POLYTECHNIC SCHOOL

This school has been about 30 years in existence. Its beginning was very modest. In 1897, ten years after its foundation, it still had less than 20 students. Since then, as it improved its teaching the number of students increased. Nearly 200 students now follow its courses.

The present Government has not been sparing of its aid and support as may be seen by the following statement of grants to it :

1897-98.....	\$ 10,000.00
1904-05.....	13,000.00
1912-13.....	30,000.00
1914-15.....	40,000.00

The Government cannot be reproached with having been too generous to that institution because it is a nursery of most competent engineers who cannot fail to render great services to our province.

TECHNICAL SCHOOLS.

In 1897, the Flynn Government had the following enactment passed which has become art. 5934 of the Revised Statutes, 1909.

1. The council of any city, town or village municipality may, by by-law, provide for the encouragement of technical education for the benefit of mechanics and the working classes generally :

a. By establishing technical schools in the municipality and giving bonuses and prizes to be competed for by the pupils thereof ;

b. By granting money to the schools established under article 2483, by and giving bonuses and prizes to be competed for by the pupils thereof ;

c. By granting exemptions from taxation to the successful pupils in any such schools ;

d. By otherwise assisting the progress and efficiency of such school in any manner that may be deemed advisable.

2. All by-laws passed for such purpose shall, however, before coming into force, be approved by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council.

3. All such schools shall be under the control of the Council of Arts and Manufactures.

It should be noted in passing that the technical schools established under that act of the Flynn Government would not have been under the control of the Council of Public Instruction, but under the immediate control of the Council of Arts and Manufactures, a corporation composed of 17 members, some Catholic and some Protestant (Arts. 2468 and fol. R. S.) and under the immediate control of the Government.

But this act remained a dead letter and so far no municipality has availed itself of the powers conferred by art. 5934 of the R. S.

In 1906, the Gouin Government decided that it was time to establish real technical education in this province and to supply the lack of initiative on the part of municipalities. Moreover, the establishment of technical schools was eagerly called for by the people and by the Council of Public Instruction.

In 1907, two acts were passed incorporating the Corporation of the Quebec Technical School and that of the Montreal Technical School, and authorizing them to establish and direct schools for technical teaching.

The corporation of the Quebec Technical School consists:

1. Of delegates appointed by the city council;
2. Of delegates appointed by the Government, one of whom must be chosen from the working classes;
3. Of the principal.

The corporation of the Montreal Technical School consists:

1. Of delegates appointed by the city council;
2. Of delegates appointed by the Government, one of whom must be chosen from among the members of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association and one from among the working classes;
3. Of delegates from the boards of trade;
4. Of the principal.

The services of the members of these corporations, apart from those of the principal, are gratuitous.

The corporations set to work. They bought grounds and, after preparing plans and calling for tenders, they had the necessary building erected for establishing schools adequate to the requirements of Montreal and Quebec.

These schools have now been open since September, 1911; they give lectures during the day to young men who have finished the primary course of study and lectures at night for workmen or apprentices already employed in factories.

The number of students enrolled exceeds all expectations; their numbers are :

Number of students enrolled.....	1911-12	1912-13	1913-14	1914-15
At Montreal.....	450	540	604	720
At Quebec.....	181	—	299	319

Nobody has anything to say now against the foundation of these technical schools, but the Government is reproached:

1. With having erected too costly buildings;
2. With not having, instead, subsidized existing colleges throughout the province;
3. With not having, instead, established such schools near workshops.

These reproaches are not founded. These schools have not cost more than similar schools elsewhere. Thus the Montreal school costs—grounds, buildings, furniture, and plant included—\$775,000 (V. and P., 1912, p. 193), and that of Quebec about \$500,000 (V. and P., p. 192).

Now, those who read the Toronto papers may have seen in the "Globe" and "Mail and Empire" of the 1st September, 1915, a report of the inauguration of the new Toronto Technical

School, which has cost the city of Toronto almost two million dollars (Mail and Empire 1st September, p. 4).

In certain quarters they overlook the fact that technical teaching requires an installation out of the ordinary. A technical school is neither more nor less than an aggregation of work-shops; it resembles a work-shop more than an ordinary school.

It is an undeniable fact that the Montreal Technical School is well fitted out. The commission appointed by the Federal Government to study the organization of technical schools, travelled through the principal countries and stated that the Montreal one was the best organized they had seen.

Another thing that is said is: "Why, instead of spending \$1,325,000 in building two schools, did you not, rather, subsidize the various colleges of our province in order to enable them to have courses in industry?" The reason is very simple: because our colleges are not fitted out for the purpose; they have no professors who can teach such courses, and it is not in their province to train apprentices to trades.

Moreover, the Government intends to extend technical teaching to all the manufacturing centres of the province. Sir Lomer Gouin said in 1907, speaking of the technical schools it was proposed to found in Quebec and Montreal:

"These institutions will be the roots from which others will spring and, before long, each manufacturing and commercial centre of our province should have at least one school of the kind we intend to establish first at Quebec and Montreal."

As may be seen, it was the Government's intention to found at first one school in each of the two principal manufacturing cities of the province and afterwards to establish them in the other centres. Everything could not be done at once, and it was proper to begin with Montreal and Quebec. The Government has remained faithful to its programme and since 1912, it has voted \$10,000 every year in aid of the maintenance of technical schools outside the cities of Quebec and Montreal. It was with the purpose of encouraging and developing technical teaching that it passed in 1914, the act 4 Geo. V, chapter 25. Its efforts have not been in vain and, to day, we may be proud of the existence of the Shawinigan Technical School,

attended by 184 students, those of Beauceville and of Sherbrooke, counting the one 11 and the other 40 students. Other students will come before long to add to the number.

Should it be desired to know what has become of the students who have attended the technical schools, it will be seen by referring to page 152 of V. P. of 1916, that nearly all are now in industries where they occupy enviable positions.

Finally, the Government is reproached for not having those schools annexed to existing work-shops. It is even asserted that many manufacturing companies would have liked to have such schools attached to their shops. Evidently, apprenticeship is confounded with technical schools. Moreover, between 1906 and 1909, Sir Lomer Gouin frequently appealed to the manufacturing classes; he told them that the training of skilled workmen was the best protection they could have for their industries, and that they should, as in European countries, contribute to the organization and maintenance of technical education; but they always remained dead to his appeals. Therefore, the Government took upon itself to contribute to the establishment of these technical schools. It has guaranteed the loans contracted by the corporations of the schools to the extent of \$1,075,000. As we have explained under the head of the public debt, the Government's liability is itself fully guaranteed by the mortgage it holds on the grounds and buildings of the schools; moreover, the grounds alone of the Montreal School, which were bought for \$150,000, are now worth \$1,000,000, according to the opinion of competent persons.

Further, the Government gives an annual grant of \$40,000 to the Montreal school and one of \$40,000 to the Quebec school.

On their part, each of the cities of Quebec and Montreal gives a yearly grant to the schools.

Let us add that, since 1907, the Government pays a yearly grant of \$5,000 to the Montreal Technical Institute to aid it to give industrial lessons at night. Those night lessons are now followed by 1400 pupils.

To sum up, the Government gives annually for technical industrial teaching:

To the Montreal Technical School.....	\$ 40,000.00
To the Quebec.....	40,000.00
To Technical Schools outside Montreal and Quebec....	10,000.00
To the Montreal Technical Institute.....	5,000.00
To the schools of Arts and Manufactures.....	16,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$111,000.00

All these yearly grants are given only since Sir Lomer Gouin came to power, with the exception of that to the schools of Arts and Manufactures.

SCHOOL FOR HIGHER COMMERCIAL STUDIES

That the school for Higher Commercial Studies is one of the best equipped schools existing, that its courses of studies are the most effective no other proof is required than the remarkable success it won at the Lyon Universal Exhibition, in 1914.

The jury was composed of the principal men of note of the French university world.

After having examined the plan of the school for Higher Commercial Studies, its courses of studies, its methods, the jury awarded it, a gold medal diploma. This success won by our Commercial University is so much more remarkable as it is customary to grant only secondary awards to institutions exhibiting for the first time, and the school had not been long enough in operation to show the results of its teaching as other higher commercial schools exhibiting.

It is said that each student of that school costs the province \$550. This is explained by the fact that the school has been in operation only a short while and cannot yet have a larger number of students; it costs as much to maintain the school as if the students were more numerous. And yet it is attended by 85 students, that is more than the Polytechnic School ever had during the first fifteen years of its existence.

In connection with the Polytechnic School, it is advisable to recall the fact that in 1895, that is nearly ten years after its foundation, each student cost the province over \$600. And there is this difference between the Polytechnic School and

that for higher commercial studies, the latter is to give 75 scholarships yearly to students while the Polytechnic School gave none.

After having established its work on a solid base, after having overcome all difficulties, silenced all foolish prejudices raised against this school, after having liberally secured its future, the Gouin Government thought the time had come to affiliate it to the Laval University of Montreal.

As a compensation to the Protestant element who had contributed, as all other elements, in the foundation of that school the Government has decided to add annually to the Budget a sum of \$8000 and to hand same to the Protestant Committee of Council of Public Instruction. This affiliation was carried out without in anyway slighting the Protestant minority and we might rather add with its approval. In fact, at its sitting of the 25th September, 1914, the Protestant Committee of the Council of Public Instruction passed the following resolution.

"Whereas, practically, only French speaking pupils have attended that school since its opening, and that no change to the present state of affairs is apparent, this Committee recommends the affiliation of said School to Laval University on the aforesaid conditions, that is to say a compensation of \$8000 per year."

We would say, in conclusion, that the Government pays to the School for Higher Commercial Studies an annual grant of \$50,000 and, in exchange, the latter has to give 75 scholarships to its students every year.

The number of students enrolled at the school in the first year was 33 and in the second year 38. It was 60 in 1913-14 and 80 in 1914-15. In two or three years time it will have as many pupils as the Polytechnic School.

OTHER SPECIAL SCHOOLS

The Government subsidizes several other special schools; agricultural schools, dairy schools, housekeeping schools, a veterinary school, and a forestry school.

We deal with the latter under the head of the administration of lands and forests and with the others under the head of agriculture.

AGRICULTURE

It is in times of stress such as those we have experienced since 1912, that all the importance which should be attached to agriculture is realized. If to-day the Province of Quebec suffers less from the economic crisis than all other provinces of the Dominion, the cause must be attributed to the saving habit of our rural populations and to the ever increasing progress of Agriculture effected in our Province, thanks to the enterprising spirit of our farmers and thanks equally to the fruitful efforts of the Gouin Government.

Agriculture is at the basis of a nation's prosperity and manufactures and trade cannot progress where farming is on the decline.

Here is a statement of the sum disbursed for Agriculture for the last twenty years.

1895-96.....	\$	163,494.09	
1905-06.....		218,600.00	
1906-1907.....		218,800.00	
1907-1908.....		228,210.00	
1908-1909.....		286,026.77	
1909-1910.....		317,300.00	
1910-1911.....		436,653.95	
1911-1912.....		426,047.54	
1912-1913.....		436,133.64	
Federal Subsidy.....		139,482.40	575,616.04
1913-1914.....		483,545.61	
Federal Subsidy.....		159,482.40	643,028.01
1914-1915.....		437,142.72	
Federal Subsidy.....		187,409.16	624,551.88

That is to say, since it administered the affairs of the Province, the Gouin Government has paid out to assist in the development of Agriculture, a sum of \$3,488,460.23; if the Federal subsidy to Agriculture is added: \$486,373.96, the considerable amount of \$3,974,834.19 is reached.

TOTAL EXPENDITURE IN FAVOR OF FARMERS

The annual agricultural budget does not show all the monies paid out to Farmers. They also derive great benefit from the sums granted yearly to colonization roads, rural roads, the building of bridges, the redemption of tolls, etc.

Here is a table showing the total expenditures in favor of farmers in 1896 by the Flynn Government and in 1915 by the Gouin Government.

	1896	1915
Agriculture (Provincial Estimates)..... \$	183,494.09	\$ 398,500.95
Colonization Roads.....	100,000.00	225,000.00
Improvement of Rural Roads.....	30.20	341,226.00
Good Roads' Act, 1912..... Nil		5,713,082.85
Iron bridges..... Nil		210,000.00
Toll gates and toll bridges..... Nil		21,285.27
	\$ 263,524.09	\$6,909,095.07

The above table does not include the sums allotted to Public Instruction in which the farmers share to a large extent.

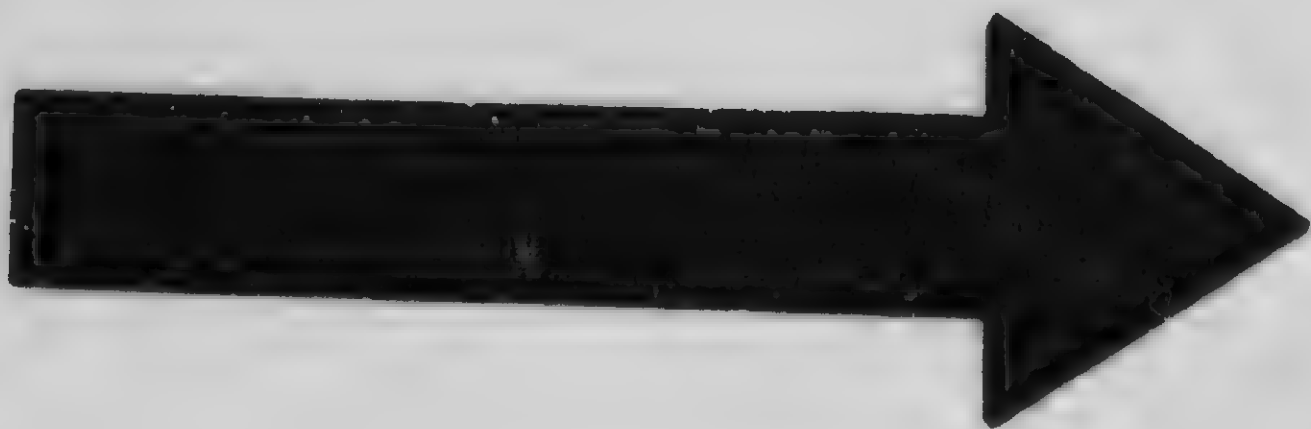
The farmers receive much and in return contribute but very little to the Public Treasury. They are not reached by the taxes on commercial corporations and stock exchange operations, and the same may be said of hotel and automobile licenses, detective permits, etc. In truth, the only tax which affects them is the tax on successions and still Sir Lomer Gouin has shown, in a speech made at Montreal in 1915 (the figures given have never been contradicted and they cannot be for they are official) that the 1,045 rural municipalities of the Province had, in 1914, contributed \$38,183.78 as succession duties, which amount represents an average of \$36.54 by municipality and three cents per head of rural population.

Three cents per head is rather a small amount, is it not !

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES AND FARMERS' CLUBS.

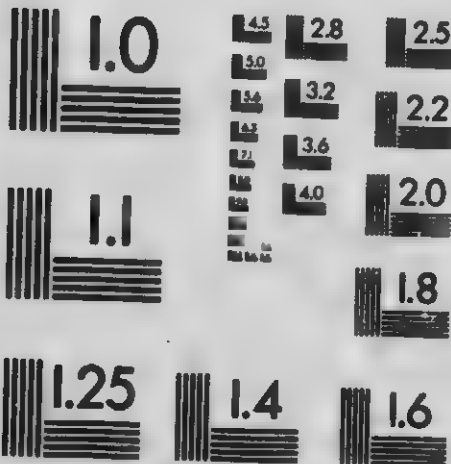
The following statement shows the sums paid to Agricultural Societies and farmers' clubs at various times.

Years	Agricultural Societies	Farmers' Clubs.
1892-1893.....	\$ 32,839.00	
1896-1897.....	26,166.47	
1904-1905.....	35,364.34	
1910-1911.....	56,391.58	\$ 29,278.50
1911-1912.....	63,804.08	29,510.80
1912-1913.....	75,643.32	30,151.57
1913-1914.....	86,847.09	31,339.02
1914-1915.....	86,816.71	30,606.90
	\$ 369,502.78	\$ 150,886.79



MICROCOPY RESOLUTION TEST CHART

(ANSI and ISO TEST CHART No. 2)



APPLIED IMAGE Inc

1653 East Main Street
Rochester, New York 14609 USA
(716) 482 - 0300 - Phone
(716) 288 - 5989 - Fax

As may be seen, the grants paid had decreased from 1892 to 1897 by some thousands of dollars. Under the Liberal Regime they have more than tripled.

In the last five years, Agricultural Societies have received an average of \$4,600.00 each, and Farmers' Clubs about \$220.00 each.

To-day each Agricultural Society can get about \$250.00 more than it formerly received under the Conservative Regime; made up as follows:

\$75.00 for each competition for standing crop.

\$75.00 for holding seed exhibitions;

\$100.00 for keeping a stallion, without taking into account the special grants allotted them, as circumstances may require, to assist them in the purchase of thoroughbred stock or in paying for permanent buildings for the holding of exhibitions or to increase the prizes given at exhibitions.

Formerly a club received an amount double that subscribed by its members, less however \$0.30 per member which the Government kept to pay that member's subscription to the "*Journal of Agriculture*", making an average of \$60.00 per club.

At present, each club can get :

Special Grant.....	\$ 50.00
Premium for keeping a bull.....	50.00
Premium for keeping a boar.....	15.00
Premium for keeping a ram.....	15.00
Total.....	\$130.00

and its members pay nothing for receiving the *Journal of Agriculture*.

Number of members	of societies	of clubs
1897.....	13,292	43,061
1905.....	19,205	51,188
1913.....	23,512	65,324
1914.....	22,733	68,000

LOANS TO VARIOUS AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATIONS

In addition to the grants just above mentioned, the Government, since 1906, make loans of money to clubs, societies and

various agricultural associations so as to enable them to import or purchase registered thoroughbreds so as to improve their stock. For the four years 1911-12, 1912-13, 1913-14, 1914-15 the Government has placed at their disposal a sum of \$133,199.43, say almost \$35,000 per year.

A delay of from two to four years is given for the reimbursement of such loans which are free of interest.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.

HORTICULTURE IN THE SCHOOLS.

Since 1904, the Government has favored the practical teaching of horticulture in the primary schools.

In 14 years 61,563 pupils have been taught in the schools the rudiments of horticulture, elementary rudiments without doubt, but which by arousing their natural curiosity have left on their mind favorable impressions and ideas regarding the cultivation of the soil.

HOUSEKEEPING SCHOOLS.

During recent years, the Government has established a number of housekeeping schools at various points in the province. These schools carry out a programme suited to our wants and approved by the Council of Public Instruction. They are destined to do immense good for all classes of the population.

In 1905, only two were in existence, those of Roberval and St. Pascal, and they received \$3,800 in grants.

In 1915, 45 schools were in existence and shared in a sum of \$15,000 in grants.

DISTRICT AGRONOMISTS.

Nobody disputes the importance of agricultural colleges, but as their influence is only felt among the young people, it was a very wise policy to instil agricultural knowledge not only among those too old to attend agricultural schools but also those who cannot afford the leisure to be present at exhi-

bitions, lectures and demonstrations. To avoid giving the farmers the least pretext not to adopt the best means of culture, the Honourable Mr. Caron, has appointed six agronomists who are attached to the particular district assigned to them, and visit the farmers at their domicile, give consultations, lectures and look after agricultural associations.

BACON INDUSTRY.

The bacon industry is the corollary of the dairy industry, and Denmark, for example, where these two industries flourish, annually exports 50 million dollars worth of butter and 25 million dollars worth of bacon. So as to enable our farmers to advantageously engage in and attain the knowledge such industry requires, the Government founded at Saint Valier a stationary school where a Danish expert teaches gratuitously and in a practical manner everything in connection with the preparation of smoked meat.

This policy has already produced happy results in awakening the attention of our people.

SHORT COURSES OF AGRICULTURE

With the view of making agricultural instruction popular, the Department of Agriculture organized, in 1913, an itinerant school that went through the greater part of the Province and was visited by 11,000 people.

In 1913-14, the Department caused over 1,000 lectures to be given in all the rural centres, which were attended by over 100,000 persons.

In 1914-15, the Department created an innovation by causing short courses to be given in the most important centres of every agricultural district. The courses lasted a week at each place at the rate of three sittings per day and of several lectures at each sitting. All the farmers of those regions made it their duty to attend the lectures in large numbers, the average of which was never less than 800.

SUGARY SCHOOLS.

In order to enable our farmers to improve the quality of their sugar and maple syrup, the Department of Agriculture

established three sugary schools. The importance of these establishments was understood and those interested came in numbers to learn the best methods of making or comparing their own with those recommended by our experts.

AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS.

The Government has also largely subsidized the agricultural schools of Oka and Ste Anne de la Pocatière in order to enable them to give complete agricultural teaching.

Further, it grants them every year:

1. To the school of Ste Anne de la Pocatière an annual subsidy of \$10,000 and a monthly indemnity of \$7 per student, over twenty in number.

2. To the Oka Agricultural Institute an annual subsidy of \$5,500 and a monthly indemnity of \$7 per student.

3. To the Macdonald School at Ste Anne de Bellevue an indemnity of \$7 per student from the province of Quebec.

During the last four years the sum of \$272,101.00 was divided between the three MacDonald, Oka and Sainte-Anne de la Pocatière schools, that is about \$68,000.00 per annum, coming half out of the Federal subsidy and half out of the appropriation for Agriculture. MacDonald received \$74,595.00, Oka \$79,768.00, and Sainte-Anne de la Pocatière \$87,738.00 in addition to the sum of \$30,000 for building.

Thanks to those subsidies, Sainte-Anne de la Pocatière and Oka have considerably increased their colleges and may now accommodate a greater number of students than ever.

Number of students who have followed the regular or special school courses of

	1897	1910-11	1911-12	1912-13	1913-14	1914-15
Oka.....	49	99	91	116	149	277
Ste Anne.....	26	31	62	70	93	246

MacDonald was attended in 1912-13 by 122 students of the Province of Quebec, in 1913-14 by 163.

Detail to be noted: the students of the agricultural schools are lodged, boarded and taught gratuitously.

THE DAIRY SCHOOL.

In the first place, the Government has established and improved the St. Hyacinthe Dairy School, which is now one of the best fitted out on the continent.

The following statement shows the number of students attending the school and the amounts of the grants the Government has paid it:

	Students	Grants
1897.....	302	\$8,170.42
1914-15.....	450	8,000.00

AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION

To increase the value of farm produce as well as to lessen the cost of alimentary products, the Honourable Mr. Caron has vigorously advocated a policy of agricultural cooperation. Success has exceeded his hopes. Thus during the last three years, 1913, 1914 and 1915, 110 new cooperative associations have been organized, which brings the number of such associations to 148. This means that to-day in the Province of Quebec, there exists an agricultural society per 13,545 inhabitants, whilst in England where cooperation has been established for many years past, there is one society per 11,000 inhabitants.

THE CHEESEMAKERS' COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION.

This association was constituted in April, 1910, with the help of the Department of Agriculture. It had a membership of 1,800 at the end of 1915, an increase of 500 over the preceding year. Last year, in 1915, it transacted business for well over \$2,000,000.00, although its subscribed capital is only \$13,730.00 and its paid up capital \$2,088.00. After having paid a 6% dividend to its shareholders it placed in its reserve fund a total surplus of \$17,761.84 for the same year.

The importance of this association is such that without having recourse to traders, it has supplied within a delay of ten weeks, the four millions pounds of cheese which the Pro-

vincial Government offered to the Imperial authorities at the beginning of the war.

We have an irrefutable proof that the products of the Quebec Cooperative Cheesemakers' Association are of first quality, in the numerous prizes awarded them wherever they have been exhibited. Thus, at Toronto, in 1914, they secured 21 prizes out of 24, and, at Ottawa, 10 out of 12. In 1915, at the Toronto Exhibition, they took 24 prizes out of 30, and on this occasion the association was warmly complimented for its repeated successes by "The Gazette" a Conservative paper of Montreal.

We wish to repeat that this organization was created with the cooperation of the Department of Agriculture, and it owes its existence to the efforts of the Honourable Mr. Caron, to his initiative, his energy, his patriotism. The improvement of our dairy products and the increase in their market value, is the double purpose which the Minister of Agriculture had in view and such is the results he has achieved. This single reform is sufficient to place Mr. Caron amongst the best Ministers of Agriculture of the Province of Quebec. But many are the other work's he has accomplished, the reforms he has brought about, the new measures he has introduced.

ENCOURAGEMENT OF DAIRYING

The encouragement of the dairy industry is shown under many forms: creation of cooperative societies, intelligent advertising of dairy products, maintenance of a perfectly equipped dairy school, generous subsidies to dairy associations, premiums for ripening rooms, aid for the construction of silos, premiums granted for pasteurized butter competitions, premiums to manufacturers for encouraging the proper keeping of factories, etc.

The following is a statement of the total subsidies granted by the Government to the dairy industry at different periods:

1896.....	\$ 28,212.40
1905.....	\$ 45,000.00
1915.....	\$ 67,676.14

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES

In 1897, there were in the province 1163 butter and cheese factories not syndicated. These factories were not subject to inspection. In 1897, the Liberal Government established inspection for these factories.

In 1910, it had an act passed enacting regulations for butter and cheese factories and compelling them to take out a license.

This act which has been in force since the 1st January, 1912 was needed to remedy the many abuses due to the multiplying of factories which were too small and not properly fitted out.

This law has already produced excellent results, especially concerning the new factories, which are nearly all built in accordance with plans approved by the Department, with cement floors and ripening rooms. This is progress to be proud of.

There was no uniformity in the inspection up to 1915, and a great number of inspectors were in a really ridiculous position.

About 1200 to 1500 factories were inspected by inspectors appointed and paid by the proprietors of the factories themselves. That is to say the inspectors were the servants of those whose property they were to inspect. So as not to expose themselves to the danger of losing their position and to please those by whom they were paid, they made reports of a doubtful value. Each factory gave \$15 to \$20 per annum to the inspector in this way, without mentioning his food and that of his horse.

The balance of the factories were inspected gratuitously by inspectors appointed and paid by the Government.

Thus, to create uniformity in inspection the Government decided, in 1915, to itself appoint inspectors and pay them directly, so as to place them beyond the influence of the manufacturers. For such purpose it imposes a fee of \$15.00 on each factory. They are all now on the same footing. There is not a single one that receives any favor either from the Government or the inspector. Equal justice for all. The reports will henceforth be more reliable and it will be known where the good and the bad factories are.

It is said that the latter law had raised protests throughout the Province. That is false. At the start, a few factories only were obstinate but they soon submitted with the best grace in the world.

DRAINAGE

So as to aid farmers who desire to improve their land by drainage, the Department of Agriculture offers them gratuitously plans it has prepared by experts. In 1914 and 1915, nine young graduates of the Schools of Agriculture under the direction of two qualified professors Messrs. Savoie and Emberley, were placed at the disposal of the farmers. They visited about one hundred farms each year, made out plans, and pointed out to the interested parties the needful details for making efficient drainage.

Moreover, the Department has acquired two excavators which it makes use of for demonstration purposes in the different places in the Province.

IMPROVEMENT OF SWINE AND SHEEP

Since 1910, the Department of Agriculture has organized, every year, with the concurrence of the Province of Quebec Stock-Breeders' Association, sales of registered pure-bred swine and sheep. The agricultural societies and farmers' clubs have the privilege of buying on time payments. They profit largely thereby and this policy, although of recent date, is in the way of producing excellent results.

In 1914, the purchasers were able to get 80% of the animals offered for sale from the breeders of the Province, whereas but a few years back, it was necessary to go to Ontario for the greater number of these animals.

During the same year there were sold by auction not less than 348 pure-bred animals for the sum of \$12,142.00.

As a consequence of this innovation the breeding of purebred animals has become more and more in vogue in our Province. The Province of Quebec Stock-Breeders' Association which had 275 members in 1907, numbered 806 in 1915. The Sheep Breeders' Association has nearly as many members as Associations of the same kind in all the other Provinces combined. In 1912, there were 29 breeding syndicates in the Province; in 1915, there were 48.

AVICULTURE

Within the last few years the Department has organized a special poultry division which deals particularly with the development and encouragement of aviculture in the Province.

Moreover, the Department of Agriculture has organized, throughout the Province, thirty poultry-raising stations where the farmers may acquire the knowledge they need to make a paying business of poultry-raising.

Is it necessary to recall that not long ago the Canadian Pacific was obliged to go to Chicago for the chickens required for its buffet-cars. At present they may be had in the Province, owing to the development of the breeding of fowl.

CULTIVATION OF CLOVER

Since 1910, the Department of Agriculture has inaugurated a campaign of education and organized experimental stations to spread information touching growing of clover.

This crop furnishes excellent pasturage, an absolutely necessary element to the dairy industry; further, owing to the richness of its roots, it provides the land with one of the best fertilizers; lastly, it yields considerable profits when grown for the seed.

Convinced of the importance and the advantages of this crop, the Government, in 1911, established demonstration fields. It has since created 33 experimental stations in different localities in the province and placed twenty five threshing machines at the disposal of the farmers who raise clover. These demonstrations have had the best results and whilst five years ago, there was little or no clover grown for seed grain, the year 1914 yielded about 150,000 lbs or \$32,300.00 in value.

APICULTURE

Apiculture, which is developing very rapidly, has been liberally subsidized. The Government has carried on a very active propaganda in favor of this exceedingly paying industry and it is also having all the apiaries visited and inspected to prevent or eradicate the diseases of bees.

FRUIT GROWING

In 1914, the Government caused the planting of 60,000 apple trees of different varieties in connection with agricultural and housekeeping schools and fruit stations, and in two or three years time, the owners of fruit growing lands will be able to secure fruit trees, at low cost, from these various nurseries disseminated in 32 counties of the Province.

From \$1,500.00 in 1898, the provincial grant of to-day for the encouragement of fruit growing now exceeds \$10,000 annually and this money well used has been the cause of the creation of thousands of orchards and has, to such an extent, contributed to the horticultural education of orchard owners, in the remotest parts of the Province, that the Federal Government, approving the energetic and already so efficacious efforts of the Hon. Mr. Caron, to-day contributes to defray the costs of such stations.

Summary of the work accomplished by Liberals for Agriculture.

1. Increase in agricultural appropriations from \$217,000.00 in 1902, to \$483,545.00 in 1914.
2. Organization of the Montreal Cooperative sales of the Cheesemakers' Cooperative Association and of one hundred other cooperative societies, some of which are very prosperous and do business for an aggregate amount of well over two millions of dollars annually.
3. Considerable increase in the subsidies to provincial exhibitions which now receive \$30,000 more than 10 years ago.
4. Practical demonstrations in all branches of agricultural industry made at such exhibitions for the last four years.
5. Increase in the grants to Agricultural societies.
6. Increase in the grants to Farmers' clubs, which, instead of \$50.00, may now receive a maximum of \$130.00.
7. Creation of 15 new agricultural societies and of more than 100 Farmers' Clubs.
8. Organization of Young Women Farmers' Clubs.
9. Rebuilding of the St. Anne Agricultural School in 1911-12, aggrandizement of this school and of that of Oka now under way, considerable financial aid granted to these two institutions as well as to Macdonald College.

10. Creation of four central Housekeeping Schools and organization of 40 courses in housekeeping attended by thousands of pupils.
11. Agricultural teaching given in all colleges, academies, normal schools, convents.
12. Grants to the Vauvert and St. Damien Agricultural Institutes.
14. Encouragement in the building of silos, ripening rooms, cold hen-houses, stock breeding and fattening stations, which have contributed in greatly increasing the production of dairy products, eggs and poultry.
15. Importation of Belgian breeding horses.
16. Annual sale of pure bred cattle, swine and sheep.
17. School trains going through different parts of the Province for instruction and demonstration purposes.
18. Short courses given in the three agricultural colleges and the organization, since two years, of similar courses in several counties of the Province, permitting the giving of theoretical and practical lessons in agriculture to thousands of young men.
19. Organization of demonstration fields and orchards, and courses in the pruning and spraying of fruit-trees given by experts in several localities in the Province.
20. Encouragement of fruit growing, fruit canning, lessons in planting and grafting given all over the Province.
21. Publication of thousands of pamphlets on agriculture distributed, on demand, to all farmers.
22. Reorganization of the veterinary school and increase of its subsidy.
23. Improvements made to the Dairy School now attended by over 700 pupils.
24. Laws on the destruction of weeds, on the organization of cooperatives, law for the protection of sheep.
25. Appointment of six agronomists stationed in different parts of the Province to assist the farmers in land cultivation.
26. Encouragement of the smoked meat industry and the creation of three demonstration schools for that purpose, at Oka, Ste Anne and St. Valier. Aid for underground drainage.
27. Encouragement of the maple sugar industry and creation of three sugary schools.
28. Encouragement of the clover seed industry, formation

of societies, purchase of threshing machines which have contributed to the creation of this industry, unknown in our province five years ago, and which rendered possible, this year, a crop of one half million pounds of clover seed.

29. Encouragement of plowing and land clearing competitions.

30. Reorganization of the inspection of dairy factories.

31. Competitions organized between dairy factories.

32. Aid for the making of pasteurized butter, the cultivation of tobacco and the preparing of same for market.

33. Encouragement of agricultural missionaries, appointment of two members of the Catholic clergy charged to give agricultural lectures in all churches and schools for higher education.

34. Recruiting work in favor of agricultural colleges in all primary schools and establishments for higher education.

35. Propaganda for a teaching based on agriculture in all primary schools and establishments for higher education.

36. Agriculture taught to school inspectors and professors, again taught by them in all establishments under their control.

37. Organization of a new branch on entomology and agricultural chemistry.

38. Competitions on standing crops and seed exhibitions.

39. Organization of the Society of Seed-growers which has sorted and prepared for market more than one hundred thousand bushels of seed grain of all kinds, aid in the purchase of various machines for the sorting of grain seed, and also for the spraying of fruit-trees.

40. Creation, at Berthierville, of a nursery destined to supply gratuitously hundreds of thousands of young plants for the fruit-growing industry.

41. Organization of poultry shows, exhibitions of horticultural products, aid to apiculture, inspection of bee-hives, distribution of Italian queen-bees, etc.

To which may be added the millions which the Gouin Government devotes to the building of iron and concrete bridges, the betterment of roads, all improvements of direct benefit to the agricultural class.

This is his work, and he may well be proud of it. No government has done so much for farmers.

JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE

The Journal of Agriculture is one of the most interesting and best compiled journals to be found, as the numerous testimonials that the Department has received from European publicists will show.

Its circulation now exceeds 90,000. It is therefore one of the most important journals in the Province and the country. The subscription price is moderate. The 68,000 members of the farmers' clubs receive it gratuitously. The 22,000 members of the agricultural societies also receive it gratuitously, but in both these cases the Department retains 30 cents per member out of the amount of the annual subsidies it pays to them.

The Government is assailed for the contract entered into with "Le Canada" for the printing of the Journal of Agriculture and a scandal has even been tried to be made out of it.

All the criticisms made respecting the Journal of Agriculture are no more sincere than founded. Let us see:

First, it is false that tenders were not asked for. In November, 1911, the Department asked four business firms for tenders for the printing of the Journal of Agriculture, on certain conditions. The four firms are: The Gazette Printing Company, of Montreal, the la Compagnie de Publication du "Canada", of Montreal, the Librairie Beauchemin, of Montreal, and Dussault & Proulx, of Quebec.

The la Compagnie de Publication du "Canada" alone tendered. But had the Government abstained from asking for tenders it would have been bad taste on the part of the Opposition to reproach it on that score. For, a Government of this Province, whether Conservative or Castor, never asked for tenders for the printing of official documents or of the Journal of Agriculture. To be convinced of this we have but to read the Journals of the Legislative Assembly of 1910, on pages 264, 265 and 338.

And what is the Borden Government doing? After having denounced the Laurier Government, the Conservatives follow its example and give, without any tender, printing contracts to their partisans.

The following are the names of some Conservative papers and the amount of the printing they have done on account of the Borden Government in 1914:

"The Montreal Gazette" \$153,000, of which \$148,000 was for printing.

"Winnipeg Telegram"	\$ 44,000
"L'Evenement", Quebec.....	30,000
"La Patrie", of Montreal.....	28,000
"Moncton Times"	23,000
"St. John Standard"	27,000
"Montreal Star"	3,674
"Montreal Daily Mail"	238, etc., etc.

It is easy to shout as "L'Autorité" does, that "Le Canada" realizes so many thousand dollars of net profit; but to prove it is another thing.

Mr. Gaston Maillet, a well known Montreal man, made a rather ridiculous loud sounding campaign to show that the Government was paying too much for the printing of the Journal of Agriculture and, naturally, he offered to do the work for less.

Mr. Maillet is not the owner of any printing plant capable of doing a work of this kind. It would be as well to confide this work to a baker.

We know what such offers of reduction are worth—for the sole purpose of causing embarrassment and made by private individuals incapable of performing certain work themselves.

We know besides that the security able to be offered is always uncertain. And in the execution of a special work like the printing of the Journal of Agriculture, which has a circulation of about 100,000 copies which must be printed and distributed on a fixed date, it is essential to make sure of a regular delivery and of a publication made according to contract, and such is the real interest of the 100,000 subscribers.

It would be a mistake if the Government would risk, with ill disposed private individuals, in nowise prepared for such work, difficulties followed by lawsuits, which invariably arise out of an agreement where one of the parties does not make a legitimate profit.

Le "Canada" prints monthly, in both languages, on expensive paper, with numerous cuts, always costly, and on special presses requiring work by hand, twenty pages of reading matter, for the sum of 28 cents per annum.

Can it reasonably be pretended that this is an exorbitant price? No. on the contrary, and we know that this price of 28 cents does not represent the outlay of the Cie du "Canada".

That is why, in order to reimburse the contractor for the deficit resulting from the printing only of the Journal and secure him a legitimate profit, the Government has permitted him to add, at his expense, twelve pages of advertising entirely separate from the reading matter and from which he draws a profit.

The Government under the new contract has reserved for itself absolute control over the advertisements, of which a good number are not allowed, such as those of the sellers of intoxicating liquors (and we know that they are the best paying). The value as revenue of the advertising pages is thus very much lessened.

Another provision of the contract provides that when the advertisements shall exceed, thanks to the increase of the number of subscribers, a certain price per line, the Government shall receive 20% of such excess which shall also be applied in reducing the cost of the Journal.

RESULTS

Before giving figures to show the progress realized in agriculture within the last few years, it is perhaps opportune to recall certain facts and to publish a few testimonials from both authorized and disinterested sources.

First, Quebec, on two different occasions, was awarded almost the whole of the prizes for butter at the Toronto and Ottawa exhibitions. At Toronto, the surprise was so great that an officer of the Ontario Government was charged to make a special study of our inspection and manufacturing methods.

Let us not forget that for the last few years, Quebec breeders show to good advantage in all exhibitions held in the sister province and numerous are the prizes which they take from under the nose of Ontario competitors.

Let us also recall that in 1913, in a competition between the best farmers of the Province of Quebec and Ontario, it was our Province which carried the honors. Mr. Robert Ness, of Howick, a member of the council of Agriculture headed the list of all competitors.

And at a meeting of seed growers held at Ottawa in 1914, Professor Roberston, a former principal of Macdonald College, now president of the Commission of Conservation did not hesitate to say that the Province of Quebec had the best and most effective agricultural organization of the whole Dominion.

And later, at the seed grain exhibition held at Quebec, in February, 1915, another important Federal functionary, Mr. Clark, assistant seed commissioner, expressed his surprise and admiration for the things he had just seen; he especially mentioned the numerous exhibits of clover seed, which to use his own expression were a revelation to him and surpassed in quality all the best he had seen, in the most favored districts of Ontario.

QUEBEC AND ONTARIO

The Conservatives have the habit of saying that the Province of Ontario is far ahead of ours in Agricultural matters and they do not trouble themselves to attribute the fault to the Gouin Government

Let us reason a little.

First, let us see what is the figure of the productive and unproductive population of the two provinces.

	Ontario	Quebec
Total population.....	2,523,174	2,003,232
Population under twenty years.....	977,917	970,271
Population of 20 years and over.....	1,545,257	1,032,961
Male population from 20 to 75 years...	775,000	505,000

Thus it may easily be seen that although the total population of Ontario exceeds that of Quebec by 26%, the unproductive population (under 20 years) is about the same in both provinces; the population of 20 years and over is 50% greater in Ontario and the male population from 20 to 75 years is 55% greater in Ontario.

In Ontario, the population under 20 years is 64% of the figure of the population of 20 years and over and 126% of the male population from 20 to 75 years.

In Quebec, the population under 20 years is 32% of the figure of population of 20 years and over, and 192% of the figure of the *male* population from 20 to 75 years.

These figures are taken from the statistical year Book for 1914.

Now let us see what are the figures relating to the cultivation of the soil.

	Quebec	Ontario	
Number of farms.....	159,691	226,801	42% more
Acres occupied.....	15,613,267	22,171,785	42% "
Acres occupied by owners.....	14,836,325	19,192,707	29% "
Value of farms and outbuildings.....	\$638,209,689	\$926,133,962	45% "

With a productive population 50% greater Ontario has only:
42% more farms than Quebec.

42% more "acres occupied" than Quebec.

29% more "acres occupied by owners" than Quebec.

45% more agricultural wealth than Quebec.

(Statistical year Book—pages 70 and following).

It is undeniable that Ontario is favored with a better climate than ours and it is a well known fact that climate has a great influence over cultivation.

To show that under similar climatic conditions, our farmers are ahead of Ontario farmers, let us take, as an example, the counties of Prescott and Vaudreuil, those of GlenGarry and Huntingdon which are contiguous.

	Prescott	Vaudreuil	GlenGarry	Huntingdon
Occupants of land...	3,295	1,249	3,036	2,169
Acres occupied.....	278,980	106,576	279,826	219,379
Average number of acres occupied for each occupant.....	84	85	92	101
Acres improved.....	207,072	79,359	169,997	112,639
Average number of improved acres for each occupant.....	62	63	55	52
Value of the farms buildings, farm implements, animals and bees.....	\$19,181,419	\$ 8,001,652	\$16,349,257	\$10,611,559

Mean value of farms.	\$ 5,821	6,406	5,385	4,892
Value of all products.	\$3,449,457	1,495,571	3,419,346	2,501,304
Mean value of products by each occupant.	1,046	1,197	1,126	1,153
Value of product by each acre occupied.	12.36	14.03	12.21	11.40
Value of products by each acre improved	16.63	18.84	20.11	22.20
Percentage of revenue with reference to the value of the farms, buildings, farm implements, animals, etc.	18%	18%	20%	23%
(Census figures of 1911).				

Therefore, when they are favored with the same climate and temperature the counties of this Province can advantageously be compared with those of Ontario in agricultural matters.

However, in spite of less favorable climate, we have made considerable progress which places us, in many respects, ahead of Ontario.

We give below for the decade from 1901 to 1911, a few figures taken from the last census.

The increase in the cultivation of fruits and vegetables, for the same period, figures 77.52, per cent for Ontario and 183.41 per cent for Quebec.

For vegetables only—Ontario shows an increase of 43.59 per cent and Quebec, 79.76 per cent. In the breeding of horses the percentage of increase in Ontario is 12.63. per cent and 15.87, per cent in Quebec.

Milch cows have decreased in both provinces. The percentage of decrease is 3.07 in Ontario and only 1.77 in Quebec. By way of compensation, we must say that the quantity of milk per animal has considerably increased in our province, being 56.68 per cent.

On the other hand the increase of cattle, other than milch cows, has been 16.89 per cent in Quebec, while Ontario shows the small increase of only 3.27 per cent.

Sheep breeding has also decreased in both provinces, but this decrease figures 29.08 per cent in Ontario and only 2.66 in Quebec.

In return, the improvement in breeds and the value of sheep has increased by 14.05 per cent in Quebec, while in Ontario the same value has *decreased* by 19.77 per cent.

From 1901 to 1911, swine breeding has increased by 20.78 per cent in Ontario and it reached the figure of 96.54 per cent in Quebec. The value of such animals has increased by 28.39 per cent in Ontario and 71.80 per cent in Quebec.

The number of hens in Ontario has increased by 38.46 per cent and in Quebec by 57.20 per cent.

In 1911 Ontario had 4759 vacant farms, or a total of 398,637 acres whilst Quebec had only 665 or a total of 56,342 acres.

The general increase in the yield of lands under cultivation since 1890 in both provinces, is as follows:

Quebec		Ontario
15.07%	1890-1900	12.08%
11.09%	1900-1910	1.02%

Quebec has produced in 1910, 64.79 per cent of the total production of the factory made butter of the whole Dominion.

The increase of dairy produce in the last decade is 24.51 per cent for Ontario, Quebec leads again with 27.56 per cent.

The same with the increase of value of cultivated lands which is 31.23 per cent in Ontario and 80.65 per cent in Quebec, and the increase of the value of farm produce which is 50.45 per cent in Ontario and 54.91 per cent in Quebec.

Ontario has an increase of 116.17 per cent in the sale of animals, but Quebec again greatly surpasses the sister province with an increase of 202.68 per cent to its credit. Animals slaughtered on the farm show an increase of 2.20 per cent in Ontario and 7.54 per cent in Quebec.

Eastern Provinces	Increase in the number of acres of land under cultivation		Percentage
Quebec.....	1,169,092		8.09
Ontario.....	822,261		3.85
Nova-Scotia.....	179,534		3.53
New-Brunswick.....	94,599		2.13
Prince-Edward Island.....	7,846		0.65

BETTER ROADS

IMPORTANCE OF THE QUESTION

We cannot better emphasize the importance of this question than by reproducing the following extract from a pamphlet published some time ago by the Good Roads' Association of Ohio:

SOME REASONS FOR GOOD ROADS

"If you are a farmer, because your farm will increase in value, you can raise more profitable crops, your cost of hauling will be lower, you can market your products where prices are best, your children can get to school, your family can attend church, your physician will be in closer touch with you, your boys and girls will stay on the farm, you will have better mail service, more social life and happier conditions all round.

"If you are a merchant, because good roads enlarge your trading radius and make it possible for purchasers to reach you every day in the year and you can thereby increase your sales.

"If you represent a chamber of commerce or board of trade, because the public roads are commercial feeders to the cities and every improvement of these roads means a greater prosperity to the cities through increased agricultural productions and greater stimulus to all industries.

"If you are an automobile user, because you can get the benefit of your machine every day in the year, your repair bills will be lower and the larger and better towns will be possible at all seasons of the year.

"If you are a dealer in farm products and implements, because you can receive the products and deliver the implements at all times.

"If you are a banker, because good roads will increase agriculture, commerce and manufactures, depositors, deposits and dividends.

"If you are a progressive citizen, because you cannot progress so long as your province and nation remain in the mud.

The improvement of the roads therefore practically interests all classes of society, but it is the farmers above all who are destined to derive the most benefit from it.

AMOUNTS DISBURSED

The following is a statement of the amounts disbursed annually for the past twenty years by the Government for improvement of roads, both out of the ordinary appropria-

tion for roads and out of the loans authorized by The Good Roads' Act, 1912.

1895-96.....	\$ 30.20
1896-97.....	5,953.34
1897-98.....	7,795.56
1898-99.....	10,203.29
1899-00.....	14,510.00
1900-01.....	13,000.00
1901-02.....	6,000.00
1902-03.....	17,572.79
1903-04.....	11,000.00
1904-05.....	18,250.58
1905-06.....	9,681.88
1906-07.....	15,404.56
1907-08.....	20,117.85
1908-09.....	60,141.92
1909-10.....	60,000.00
1910-11.....	95,000.00
1911-12.....	494,277.06
1912-13.....	1,069,810.35
1913-14.....	4,018,916.68
1914-15.....	6,140,273.13

As may be seen, it was in 1907 that the better roads policy was inaugurated. Previous to that date, road machines had undoubtedly been loaned to the rural municipalities and some grants had been made them, but the results of these encouragements were hardly appreciable.

HISTORY OF THE ROADS ACT

In 1907, Hon. Mr. Allard, then Minister of Agriculture, had an act passed to assure a grant to the rural municipalities who would take charge of the maintenance of their roads in summer. Two municipalities, in each county, could annually take the benefit of this grant, which amounted to \$800.

In 1908, the act of 1907 was amended so as to extend the benefits of the grant not only to two, but to all the municipalities in each county taking over the maintenance of these roads. Moreover, the Government was authorized by that law of 1908 to place at the disposal of all municipalities doing macadamizing or gravelling work a grant which might increase to \$500.00, and which would serve to pay half of the municipality's outlay for such permanent work.

The Roads Act was hardly changed before 1911. In 1911, it was completely revised on the initiative of Hon. Mr. Caron. Here are the principal advantages held out by that law, which is still in force:

THE ACT OF 1911

It provides for the granting of subsidies for the three following categories of work: (a) macadamizing, (b) gravelling, (c) maintenance.

(a) Macadamizing: The act of 1911 guarantees a subsidy equal to 50% for an amount not exceeding \$1,000, per annum, to local rural municipalities doing macadam work. The subsidy is only 40% but may also amount to \$1,000, per annum if the municipality macadamizing is a village municipality. Moreover, this latter subsidy is only granted for the principal road. For the past couple of years the Minister of Roads has extended, somewhat, the application of this law; and, in several cases, he has granted subsidies to municipalities equal to the half of the cost of their macadam work, without keeping to the limit of \$1000 fixed by the act. Thus, if a municipality has done \$3,500 worth of improvement on its roads, it receives a subsidy of \$1,750, say the half of the total expenses incurred during a season.

In addition, independently of these subsidies and to facilitate the making of macadam for the municipalities, the Government gives the latter all the necessary equipment, whenever possible. As the Government owns fifty seven complete plants, a goodly number of municipalities may be satisfied in this manner. These plants are loaned or leased to the municipalities with the instructor who directs the work. The instructor is paid by the Government. Moreover, the Government pays half of the cost of the working of the machine. These costs include the purchase of exchange parts, oil, wood, coal, and salary of the driver of the roller and tractor.

(b) Gravelling: The act of 1911 guarantees an annual subsidy equal to 50% of what a local rural municipality expends in gravelling, provided that the amount of such subsidy does not exceed \$500. For village municipalities this subsidy is only 40% and only applies to gravelling done on the principal road.

If a municipality does both gravelling and macadamizing, the total amount of the subsidy guaranteed by the act is only \$1000; but the Minister has extended the application of the act, and the regular subsidy is nearly always exceeded.

(c) Maintenance: The act of 1911 guarantees an annual subsidy of 50% up to a maximum of \$400 to a local rural municipality which places all its roads under the charge of its council, in virtue of article 1080 of the Municipal Code. Such subsidy cannot exceed \$200 when the by-roads only are placed under the charge of the council.

A subsidy at the rate of 40% is granted to a village municipality which places all its roads under the charge of its council, and such subsidy does not exceed \$200.

The subsidy for maintenance does not take the right away from municipalities to secure subsidies for macadamizing or gravelling. It does not take it away even from municipalities that benefit from the Loan Act of 1912.

These subsidies have had the effect of abolishing "the parts of roads" and to place the maintenance of the roads under one head, that of the municipal council.

Since 1907, about 18,000 miles of roads are systematically maintained by the municipalities. as there are 45,000 in the Province, there is therefore, now, over a third under the control of the municipal councils. When we think that enthusiasm for good roads dates back but five years, we cannot help admiring such a satisfactory result obtained so rapidly.

The number of municipalities having by-laws in force under the act of 1911, is 476.

To sum up, the act of 1911 guarantees to rural or village municipalities an annual subsidy equal to 50% or 40%, as the case may be, of the expenses incurred by them, but on the condition that such subsidy does not annually exceed \$1000, if it is demanded for macadamizing, and \$500 if it is demanded for gravelling.

As may be seen the advantages offered by the act of 1911 are numerous and extensive, but several municipalities are not in a condition to spend the sums required for such costly work as the macadamizing and gravelling of their roads. The Gouin Government therefore thought it to be its duty to aid the municipalities desirous of undertaking such work. And

it is thus that it passed what is commonly called "the \$10,000.-000 act."

The act of 1912 does not do away with any of the advantages of the act of 1911; on the contrary it completes it.

The important difference between these two acts is the following: that of 1911 guarantees subsidies that cannot exceed one thousand dollars, every year, for macadamizing and five hundred for gravelling, while the act of 1912, permits the Government to place at the disposal of the municipalities any amounts they need to improve their roads.

THE ACT OF 1912

But the real Good Roads' Act, is that of 1912, which has opened to rural roads a credit of \$10,000,000. This credit was later increased by \$5,000,000.

The first text of the act was modified at the second session of 1912, so as to simplify its application.

Thus, the municipalities that wish to take advantage of the act have no longer need to issue debentures. It is the Government that borrows directly and in its own name, then distributes the funds to the municipalities.

The municipalities no longer undertake to pay the half of the interest on the loans; all that is asked of them is to pay 2% interest on the amounts they receive from the Government, for forty one years.

It is the Government, we have said, that directly negotiates the loans, pays the principal and all the interest on them with the exception of 2% per annum, for 41 years, which is reimbursed the Government by the municipalities availing themselves of the advantages of the act.

In consequence of these modifications the formalities to be complied with by the municipalities have been greatly simplified.

Thus, the following according to the new text (3 Geo. V, Chap. 21, Art. 2) are the formalities necessary to benefit by this act.

a. Pass a by-law which shall come into force on the date therein mentioned, ordering the macadamizing, stoning or gravelling of the roads therein described;

b. Thereafter apply to the Government by resolution, after

a previous understanding with the Roads Department as to the amount thereof, for the sums necessary for the making or improvement of the roads described in the by-law passed in virtue of paragraph a of this section.

Such resolution shall authorize the mayor and the secretary-treasurer or clerk to sign in favour of the Provincial Treasurer, so soon as the Government is ready to supply the necessary money, forty-one coupons containing a promise on the part of the municipality to pay annually, at the time fixed by the Provincial Treasurer and mentioned on each coupon, two per cent interest on the sum mentioned in the resolution.

The resolution shall also provide by means of a special tax or otherwise for the payment of the two per cent interest on the sum which may be supplied by the Government.

As "La Patrie" said on the 30th September, 1915:

"This money is loaned to municipalities on exceptionally advantageous conditions for them. They have only to pay 2% interest, per annum, on the amounts received, for forty-one years, and the debt will be extinguished. The Government shall never claim the reimbursement of the capital. The Government could not reasonably be asked to do more. The conditions it gave to the municipalities were really attractive and, in truth, a great number of municipalities have been enticed and have expended considerable amounts for the improvement of their roads."

A slight calculation will show the advantages of this law.

Let us suppose that a municipality borrows \$50,000. With that sum it can make from 10 to 15 miles of macadamised road. Further, the ratepayers, by working at the macadamising, can earn at least $4/5$ of the amount spent, say \$40,000. This sum of \$40,000, if deposited in a savings bank, will bring at least 3%, say \$1,200 per annum.

On the other hand, the municipality must pay out annually 2% on the amount of the loan, say \$1,000 per annum.

To sum up, the ratepayers of such municipality will have from 10 to 15 miles of macadamized road. They will further have \$40,000.00 in the bank which will bring them yearly at least \$200 more than they will need to pay the interest on their loan.

As may be seen the advantages provided by the act are considerable. That this law was popular with our rural populations, no other proof is necessary than the following facts:

Six months after the passing of the law, 273 municipalities had already asked to benefit by its advantages.

At the end of the season of 1913, the total of subsidies guaranteed amounted to \$7,931,125.

During the season of 1914, the Government paid for the improvement of roads a sum of \$4,354,565.55.

Four years after the passing of the Act of 1912, \$8,162,574.43 had been placed at the disposal of municipalities and \$4,137,725.63, had been used in the construction of provincial highways. Briefly, to satisfy the desire of municipalities, it would have been necessary, from 1912 to 1916, to pay out a sum of \$23,000,000.00. This act was therefore certainly necessary. And welcomed it certainly was.

The results which it has produced have convinced even those who may have lacked enthusiasm on its adoption.

The late Honourable Mr. Monk, a former minister of the Borden Cabinet, said:

"I have not always been a partisan of the Government good roads' policy; but in seeing the happy results obtained, I am of opinion that all men of good will must lend their aid to assist the Government in putting this law into practical use. I approve the method followed by the Government of convincing the citizens of this Province, by sending out lecturers as the one we have just heard, instead of a method of compulsion.

(La Patrie, 21st August, 1913).

CREATION OF THE ROADS DEPARTMENT.

Thanks to the efforts of the Government, the movement for better roads took such an expansion, in 1912, that the creation of a Roads Department became necessary. This was no easy matter. A competent staff, especially when it is question of so new a work as the bettering of roads, is not found in a day. Let us add that the Government overcame all difficulties.

The Roads Department was at first, affiliated with that of Agriculture. In 1913, it became absolutely independent. A better idea of the importance of this new department will

be formed if we state that during the season of 1914, it has employed, during the four summer months, no less than 7,500 men.

This is certainly one of the best organized departments. It possesses a well equipped laboratory. The competency of its staff is well known and the Conservatives show notorious bad faith when they qualify the road engineers as unfit.

COURSES ON BETTER ROADS.

Annually, since three years, the Roads Department keeps, in a certain place in the Province, a school for better roads. These courses are open to all and are both theoretical and practical, and treat of the macadamizing, draining, drying up, and gravelling of roads, the construction of culverts, and the maintenance of earth roads: These courses on better roads are attended by the instructors of the Road Department, by apprentice-instructors, construction superintendents of provincial roads, inspectors, by all persons sent by the municipalities and those who come of their own accord to educate themselves. Lessons of practical mechanics on urgent repairs to machines in case of accident are given to drivers and firemen.

EQUIPMENT.

To encourage and promote macadamizing in the Province of Quebec the Government purchased fifty-seven plants which are loaned or leased to municipalities as the case may be.

These fifty-seven plants have been in operation nearly four years and several hundreds of miles of roads have so far been improved, thanks to their use. The direction of such plant is under the charge of a Government employee who looks after its operation and directs the work.

In addition to these fifty-seven plants, municipalities wishing to do so have been permitted to take advantage of the Good Roads' Act of 1912, for the purchase of plants which remain their property. A sum of \$6,500 has been allotted for such purpose and is taken out of the subsidy granted to a municipality. A great number of municipalities have taken advantage of that clause, so that there are presently in the Pro-

vince no less than one hundred and sixty plants, owned by municipalities.

Moreover to facilitate the proper working of the plants and avoid the delays which may be caused by the breakage of certain important parts of machinery, the Roads Department has opened, and maintains at Quebec, a store of repair parts fully assorted. This system affords the rapid replacing of the broken parts and puts a stop to the serious unavoidable delays which occurred when these parts had to be ordered from the manufacturer.

PROVINCIAL HIGHWAYS

By article 19 of the Good Roads' Act, 1912, the Government is authorized to cause to be made or reconstructed out of the appropriations voted for the improvement of roads, new roads or roads already existing, called Provincial highways, to connect central points of importance. The cost of building such highways is wholly paid by the Government who gives the work to contractors or superintends the construction as the case may be. The Government is also authorized under that act to exact from the municipalities crossed by such provincial highways a contribution which has been fixed to date at \$1,000 per mile for macadam and \$300 per mile for gravelling.

EDWARD VII ROAD

Up to date, in provincial roads, the Government has constructed the Edward VII Road, from Montreal to Rouses Point, 39 miles long and giving direct communication between the Canadian metropolis and the State of New York.

It is to be deplored that the Federal Government, who had undertaken the construction of a pier 8,000 feet long, along the St. Lawrence River, has not yet seen proper to carry out its promise.

Speaking of that road the "Montreal Star" in its issue of the 15th November, 1913, said :

"We are in a bad way for roads in Quebec, but we have one highway from which those coming here can learn a good deal. That is the King Edward Highway which constitutes the most important piece of road construction in the Dominion."

OTHER PROVINCIAL ROADS.

In addition to the Edward VII Road, the Government has constructed the Sherbrooke-Derby Line road, thirty-two miles long, giving direct communication between the town of Sherbrooke and the State of Vermont. This new regional road was completed last summer and is certainly one of the finest roads in the Province of Quebec.

The Montreal-Quebec road, 147 miles long, begun in 1913, is nearing completion. It will give direct communication between the two most important centres of the Province of Quebec and will rank among the finest roads on the American continent. The Levis-Jackman road, 93 miles long, is three-quarters completed. It runs through an essentially agricultural district and will give direct communication between Quebec and the State of Maine.

Several other projects of provincial highways no less important are under consideration. To name a few, the Montreal-Hull road, the Three-Rivers-Grand'Mere road, the Levis-Rimouski, Levis-Sherbrooke, Sherbrooke-Richmond-Montreal roads. It can therefore be said, without exaggeration that in ten or fifteen years time the Province of Quebec will be intersected in all directions by regional highways to which will abut the local roads built by municipalities.

RESULT OF THE ROADS POLICY

The following is a little table showing the number of miles of roads systematically maintained by the municipalities, since 1907, thanks to the Government subsidies:

Year.....	Roads systematically maintained
1907.....	about 1,000 miles
1909.....	" 2,000 "
1911.....	" 8,500 "
1913.....	" 15,000 "
1916.....	" 18,000 "

It should also be added that, since 1911, there were 1,214 miles of macadam and 497 miles of gravel roads made. The following is a statement of the work:

Year	Miles of macadamized roads	Miles of gravel roads
1911.....	40.	46.
1912.....	62.5	51.87
1913.....	225.	60.
1914.....	550.	196.
1915.....	336.77	143.46
	<hr/> 1,214.27	<hr/> 497.33

CULVERTS

So as to do away with the wooden culverts and to replace them by concrete, steel or corrugated iron ones, the Government grants subsidies to the municipalities desirous of undertaking such a change. The following is a table, showing the number of culverts that have been replaced every year since 1908:

Year	Number of culverts
1908.....	35
1909.....	649
1910.....	1,306
1911.....	2,006
1912.....	676
1913.....	2,136
1914.....	2,469
1915.....	2,335
	<hr/> 11,612

REPLIES TO SOME CRITICISMS

The Federal Government and the roads:

The Conservatives have the habit of reproaching the Liberals with the attitude that the majority of the Senators thought fit to take respecting the measure presented by the Borden Government for the making of roads in this country.

Firstly, the members of the Legislative Assembly cannot legitimately be held responsible for the acts of the Senate.

And then, it is false to assert that the Liberal Senators rejected the proposed Borden measure. They simply amended it in such a manner that the money it made provision for to be expended, be allotted to each of the Provinces in proportion to population as is the case for the Federal subsidy.

With this amendment the law would have been equitable. Without it, it would have been unjust, oppressive and unconstitutional.

In an interpellation reported on page 231 of the Journals of the Legislative Assembly for 1914, M. Tellier asked if it were true that the Prime Minister of the Province had declared himself opposed to the Borden Government measure.

To this question, Sir Lomer Gouin made the following reply, which briefly shows each of the various reasons for which the Provinces had the right to object to the adoption, in its original form, of the proposed Borden measure.

The Prime Minister declared:—

(a) That it was contrary to the constitution and to the interest of the Provinces to submit for the approval of the Government of Canada in Council, as this measure proposed the descriptions, conditions and plans of the Provincial roads;

(b) That the measure was contrary to the spirit and the letter of article 92 (8, 10 and 16) of the British North America Act, 1867;

(c) That it encroached on the prerogatives of the Provinces, as the representative of the Borden Ministry in the Senate, Mr. Loughheed, himself admitted. (See Senate Hansard p. 547);

(d) That it tended to subserve the Provincial administrations;

(e) That, according to the Honorable Mr. Cochrane, Minister of Railways and Canals of Canada, it had not for object to hand over to the Government of the various Provinces, as in the case for the subsidy to Agriculture, the amounts destined for the making or the improvement of roads. (See Hansard, non revised edition p. 866).

(f) That it did not provide for the money voted for the improvement of roads to be distributed pro rata to the respective population of the Provinces.

(g) That the Central Government although requested to assure, by a test of law, an equitable division among the Provinces of the money that Parliament might vote for this matter had formally refused to do so;

(h) And finally, that it was contrary to the policy of the Government, which has never ceased to claim the autonomy of the Provinces.

THE PARTS OF ROADS

The Opposition pretended, at the start, that The Good Roads' Act would have the effect of only aiding the improvement of "parts of roads". But experience has proved here as in the United States and elsewhere that, thanks to this policy of encouragement and freedom, the parts of roads improved are joined, little by little, and that finally, they disappear giving place to beautiful and lengthy improved highways.

By examining the plates contained in the last report of the Minister of Roads, we may be convinced that after three years only, the Roads policy has marvellously served the counties that adopted it.

Jacques-Cartier, the county of the Leader of the Opposition, is already finishing joining its parts of roads and on plate 3 of the report may be seen what magnificent improved roadways the county already possesses.

Throughout Huntingdon, Châteauguay, Laprairie, Laval, Napierville, Beauharnois, Hochelaga, Vaudreuil, Chambly, Rouville, Iberville, Deux-Montagnes, Brôme, Drummond, Arthabaska, Lotbinière, Portneuf, Lake St. John, Quebec, Bellechasse, Montmorency, L'Islet, Kamouraska, Témiscouata, Rimouski, may be seen hundreds of miles of improved roads, and the different parts now united by the work of improvement form, in several counties, veritable regional highways, which run without interruption through the country for considerable distances.

And all that is done freely and is continuing harmoniously thanks to the goodwill of the ratepayers.

Could the half of this fine result have been obtained if the councils had been taken by the throat and their wills forced as the Conservatives would have wished?

In the appreciation of the method followed, the main purpose that the Government had in view, must, however, not be forgotten: The improvement of roads from an agricultural point of view and in the interest of the farmers primarily.

That meant in every place, the improvement first of the main road, leading to the church, the railway station, the wharf the butter or cheese factory.

The farmers understood this very well and that was what was done wherever benefit was desired to be taken of the advantages offered by the Government.

All the parts have served the most pressing needs of Agriculture in each district.

They have also served as a point of comparison between the good and the bad roads. And from year to year, these parts have been prolonged until they joined one another and form the fine arteries we now admire in certain regions and contribute to the welfare and the riches of the farmers inhabiting them.

We may thus truly say that the system which led to such results is the most suitable because on the whole it is a complete success.

A Conservative paper, "The Montreal Gazette," understood these elementary truths and that is why it wrote on the 7th of March, last:

"In the Province of Quebec, the Government elaborated a plan after which certain main roads were built at the expense of the Province, whilst others were built in co-operation between the Government and the municipalities. Up to now everything is going on admirably. The municipalities have easily obtained funds and the Government has generally done its part. There are few regions where there is not some well built road to serve as a model to the others."

THE SLOWNESS OF ROAD WORKS

The Government, is it necessary to say so, has no objection to accelerate the construction of roads, provided rapidity does not interfere with quality. To do quickly but especially to do well, is the motto of the Roads Department.

This motto has been followed since 1912. And certainly, at the very outset of so new an undertaking as that of Roads, a great proof of diligence must have been shown to complete, in the short space of four years, the Edward VII Boulevard, the Sherbrooke Derby Line road, and three quarter finish the Montreal-Quebec and Levis-Jackman Road.

It is important to note that the construction of permanent roads is certainly slow work. Mr. MacLean, chief engineer of Roads for the Province of Ontario, said last year that, in our country, we can only count on about one hundred working days in one year, owing to temperature, and he added that one mile per month during six months was a reasonable task for an ordinary road plant. (*Le Droit*, 9th April, 1915.)

Who reproaches the Gouin Government with having caused unjustifiable delays in road construction.

The very ones who excuse the Hon. Bob Rogers for not yet having built the Laprairie pier. Those, who find it only natural that after three years of fruitless waiting, the usefulness of the Edward VII road be compromised by the inaction of the Borden Government.

The scandalous history of the delay in constructing the Laprairie pier is well known.

In September, 1913, when the Government was completing the Edward VII Road, the Minister of Roads made an offer to the Federal Government to complete the work on the Laprairie pier so as to be able to open that road to circulation for the summer of 1914.

The Government had at its disposal on the place a considerable equipment, it had there experienced contractors, a numerous and trained staff who, through the winter months could have prepared the ground so as to lay the macadam in May and June, 1914. Mr. Rogers, Minister of Public Works, answered that the matter was under his own personal consideration; that the tenders for that work had been received at Ottawa; that the contract would be given immediately and the work done for the opening of the season of 1914.

We are still waiting but nothing has been done.

COST OF PROVINCIAL ROADS

The opponents of the Government pretend that the cost of provincial roads is too high, that the same work is done cheaper by the municipalities, that the Roads Department is robbed, etc.

Let us first say that it has never been proved that the cost of provincial roads is too high.

The Edward VII Boulevard has cost about \$14,700 per mile and the Sherbrooke Derby Line road about \$13,900. The cost of that road when gravelled over its whole length will amount to about \$7,000 per mile. This is not an exorbitant price, by any means. The average cost per mile of macadam and gravelling in provincial roads cannot be compared with the average cost of such works when done by the municipalities.

On account of the great importance of these highways, the Government insists on their construction so as to do away with steep hills and dangerous curves. The result is that considerable expenses are incurred for indemnities, the purchase of lands, construction of bridges, straightening, displacement of telephone and telegraph posts and special works of all kinds necessitated by the modifications of site. In provincial roads the macadam is generally sixteen feet wide, to which must be added four feet of slope on each side, making a total width of twenty-four feet.

INSPECTIONS

Again the Opposition says that the Government causes the loss of considerable sums of monies by the municipalities, owing to the inefficiency of inspection and the incompetency of inspectors. Gratuitous affirmations. The inspections are severe and rigorous and the inspectors bestow all needed care to their work.

All macadam, gravel and maintenance of earth roads work made in the Province of Quebec is regularly inspected. For inspection purposes of macadam work, in particular, the Province has been divided into twelve districts, to each of which an inspector is attached. The inspectors themselves are under the special direction of a superintendent.

This system of regular inspection has given the very best results. The inspectors are charged with the supervision of the execution of all road works in their respective districts, seeing that the specifications of engineers are followed and to report to the Roads Department on the nature and state of works done.

During the year 1915, the Government inspectors have made 2,220 inspections for macadam, gravelling, special works,

culverts, etc. The above figure gives an idea of the considerable amount of work accomplished by the Roads Department.

MAINTENANCE OF PROVINCIAL ROADS

The Opposition reproaches the Government with neglecting the maintenance of roads for the construction of which has cost the Province millions of dollars.

This reproach is unfounded. The Government has, to this day, maintained all roads constructed under its care. Thus, during last summer, it did maintenance work on the Edward VII Boulevard.

Moreover the Government has now under consideration a mode of maintenance which is to apply to all main arteries. The Opposition would be of greater use to the Province by urging the Honourable Mr. Rogers to complete the works on Laprairie pier and forcing him to grant their request.

REGARDING AN INQUIRY

Certain Conservatives, gauging the Liberals at their own figure and applying to them their rule of conduct, have said. The Roads Department spends much money; therefore there must be leakage and many scandals.

And they go on repeating that the Government refuses to grant an inquiry on the administration of the Roads Department for fear of scandalous disclosures. Such is, among others, the pretensions of the Messrs. Tarte, "La Patrie."

By the way, the Messrs. Tarte, their friends and their newspaper would do much more useful work by denouncing the notorious abuses which are of daily occurrence at Ottawa under the paternal eyes of the Conservative Ministers.

The Gouin Government does not fear the light.

He has not granted an inquiry on the administration of the Roads Department for the excellent reason that the Opposition has not deemed proper to ask for one.

If we refer to page 397 of the Votes and Proceedings of the last session, we will see that Mr. Sauve did not ask for an inquiry, but simply proposed a vote of non confidence.

Why has not Mr. Sauve asked for inquiry? For the very

simple motive, that he has not found one single case, important enough to justify such a demand.

Heaven knows, however, how much he bestirred himself, what steps he took, the number of ir . . .pellations and demands for the production of documents he made, to attain the purpose he had in view.

The whole of the correspondance exchanged between the municipalities and the Roads Department during the last few years was laid before the Legislative Assembly at his request.

As the letter inserted below proves, he has also corresponded with at least one Conservative chief in each parish so as to find out if there had been any irregularity in the building of ~~roads~~

Well, after having taken so much pains, Mr. Sauvé did not deem his information sufficient to justify a demand for an inquiry. He simply moved a motion of non-confidence, drawn up in terms as vague as the facts alleged.

Here is a copy of the letter sent by Mr. Sauve to his friends:

Quebec, 17th February, 1916.

Dear Sir,

The Conservative Opposition wishes to know thoroughly the results of the Roads policy of the Gouin Government. For that reason, it calls upon its friends in every parish and prays them to be kind enough to *immediately* answer as far as possible the following questions:

1o Was any macadamizing or gravelling done in your municipality?

2o What has taken place, then? Are the roads good or bad?

3o How much had the Government promised to pay?

4o Did the Government regularly pay the monies promised?

5o Did it defer its payments? If in the affirmative, were you forced to borrow from the bank to pay?

6o Did you receive from the Government the whole amount promised? When? Was it received in time?

7o Did the council have any difficulty with the Government respecting the roads or payment?

8o Finally, what is said of the Roads policy of the Gouin Government?

Now you would greatly oblige me by giving a *clear* and precise answer to each question, *by next Thursday if possible*.

You may advantageously give to your answer a number corresponding to each question.

Thanking you in advance. believe me,

Yours very truly,

ARTHUR SAUVE.

S. V. P. Address your answer to:

ARTHUR SAUVE, M.P.P..

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, QUEBEC.

A Few Testimonials

We give below a few testimonials from disinterested individuals on the work of the Gouin Government in road matters.

It is Mr. Thos. Adams, consulting engineer of the Commission of Conservation in the improvement of towns plans, who said before the Good Roads' Association, at Toronto. "The Province of Quebec is the most advanced in Rural Road Work." (See "*Le Droit*" 9th April, 1915.)

It is "*Le Droit*," of Ottawa, who said on the 9th April, 1915. To-day an admirable awakening is apparent everywhere. The Province of Quebec, especially, seems to be far ahead of the others.

It is Mr. Geo. C. Dihl, engineer of the county of Erie in the State of New York, who said at the Toronto Congress:

"At the rate you are now going in Ontario, although it is very commendable, it will be many years before you finish your main system of highways. You are not doing nearly so well in Ontario as they are in Quebec." (Proceedings, p. 24).

It is Lucien Allen, civil engineer of Belleville, Ont., who said at the same congress:

"I think it would be of great interest and benefit for those who are interested in Good Road Work in the Province of Ontario to pay a visit to the Province of Quebec. Quebec is certainly doing her share in the matter of Good Roads, and it will certainly open the eyes of any man from Ontario to pay a visit to the Province of Quebec." (Proceedings, p. 57).

It is also Mr. D. O. Lesperance, a Conservative member at Ottawa who wrote to "L'Evenement" on the 31st December, 1915.:

"I will go farther I will say that I am so much in favor of Good Roads, I have so high an ideal of their national importance, that I would still approve the policy of the Gouin Government, even if it had all the faults and disadvantages which are attributed to it by its adversaries, because this policy has achieved something tangible. The impulse for Better Roads is given and no retrograde power can henceforth stop it."

Also the "Eastern Townships Associated Boards of Trade" which at its annual sitting adopted a resolution of congratulation to the Government relating to the Sherbrooke-Derby Line Road.

Extract from the minutes of a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Automobile Club of Canada, held on Tuesday, November 10th, 1915:

The Chairman, Mr. H. W. Pillow, reviewed the Quebec Government's work of improving our highways during the past few years, and upon motion of Mr. Jos. Versailles, seconded by Mr. A. L. Caron, it was unanimously

RESOLVED: "That the Automobile Club of Canada desires to place on record its appreciation of the activity displayed by the Provincial Government of the Province of Quebec in the matter of highway construction during the past few years. The considerable amount of work that has been accomplished throughout the province, and more especially on the main highways between important centers will be of great service and convenience to the agricultural interests and other users of the said highways. The scenic and historic beauties of the province have always been an attraction for the motor tourist, and the improved roads will be an added incentive in creating a very large motor-tourist traffic from the United States, which will financially benefit the province in general. We trust that the Government will continue to carry on and maintain the important work in the matter of road improvement."

GEORGE N. McNAMEE,
Secretary-Treasurer

IRON BRIDGES

The policy of encouraging the construction of iron bridges, inaugurated by the Mercier Government, had been abandoned in 1892. It was taken up again by the Gouin Government.

The following is a statement of the appropriations voted from year to year, since 1908:

1908-09	\$ 50,000.00
1909-10	75,000.00
1910-11	100,000.00
1911-12	125,000.00
1912-13	150,000.00
1913-14	175,000.00
1914-15	210,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$885,000.00

At the last session this appropriation was brought to \$240,000. These subsidies have produced magnificent results as the following table will show:

Number of bridges built to 30th July, 1915	322
Number of bridges under construction	45
Cost of bridges built to 30th June, 1915	\$1,977,317.55
Cost of bridges under construction	\$512,928.33
Number of new applications, over	100
Plans of bridges prepared during the year	90
Plans of bridges under way to 30th June, 1915	30

Here again we have money well spent in the farmers' interest. This building of iron bridges is the normal consequence of the good roads policy.

Moreover, it is a step in the direction of the abolition of toll bridges. At present, municipalities, instead of applying to private individuals for the building of their bridges, obtain a subsidy of some thousands of dollars from the Government, build their bridges themselves, and consequently have free bridges.

THE ABOLITION OF TOLLS

In many parts of the province there are turnpikes on roads and bridges.

In 1908, the Gouin Government promised to do away with these relics of an antiquated system as soon as possible.

Several commissions had been appointed to study this problem, in 1846, 1847, 1861, 1875 and 1889, but without any result.

In 1909, the Gouin Government appointed one which made a report in 1911, and in the same year the Government set to work and by the act 2 Geo. V, chap. 2, authorized itself to spend the sum of \$500,000.00 during the five years following to do away with tolls, wherever there are any.

The following is a list of the tolls on roads and bridges that were redeemed to the 30th June, 1915.

Dorchester Bridge, Quebec.

Plessis Bridge, at St. Henri de Lauzon.

Viau and Lachapelle Bridge and the macadamized roads of Ile Jesus.

Bridges on the Yamaska river.

St. Casimir Bridge, county of Portneuf.

Mackenzie Bridge, county of Richmond.

Savane de Ste. Brigide Turnpike Road, county of Iberville.
Drummondville Bridge.

Du Gravier Bridge, on Rivière du Sud, county of Bellechasse.
Town of Dorval, 3.144 miles of turnpike roads, redeemed from the Dorval Turnpike Road Company.

The corporation of the city of Lachine, 0.905 of a mile redeemed from the Dorval Turnpike Road Company.

Roy Bridge, at Ste. Claire, county of Dorchester.

Town of Pointe Claire, county of Jacques-Cartier, 4 miles of road.

Fontaine Bridge, county of Bagot.

Town of Pointe aux Trembles, from the eastern limits of the town of Montreal-East, to the bout de l'Ile, 4.795 miles.

Toll Gate, in the township of Blandford, county of Nicolet.

Windsor and Brompton Bridge, county of Richmond.

Road beginning at the limits of the town of Beauharnois and running through the municipalities of the parishes of St. Clement, St. Etienne and St. Louis de Gonzague, in the county of Beauharnois.

Road leading from St. Hubert to Boucherville.

Magenta Bridge, on the Yamaska river, county of Rouville.

Toll Bridges (two) in the city of Three Rivers, on the St. Maurice river.

Moreover, during the last session, the Government passed an act providing for the abolition of all the toll gates over the seventy-eight (78) miles of roads under the control of "The

North Shore Turnpike Road Commission". Such legislation has for effect the making of circulation free of payment over the roads surrounding the city of Quebec.

Thus, thanks to the policy adopted by the Government in 1912, 14 toll bridges have been redeemed during the last four years, say a third of the existing toll gates; in addition, 15 roads, of a total length of 112 miles are no longer subject to tolls.

As there only remained twenty turnpike roads throughout the whole Province in 1912, we may therefore congratulate the Government for having succeeded in abolishing the three quarters of them in such a short time. It cannot be reproached with not having made all possible haste. Besides, the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Cousineau has already acknowledged the merits of the Government. At the session of the Legislature of the 17th December, 1913, he admitted that "the present Government had done much for the abolition of toll gates". (see *L'Action Sociale* of following day).

On the 27th of March, 1916, the sum of \$399,658.11 had been spent by the Government for the abolition of turnpike roads and for bridges namely \$265,642.87 under the act 2 Geo. V, chap. 2, (\$500,000 Fund) and \$134,015.24 under 1 Geo V, chap. 3 and 2 Geo. V, chap. 3.

ADMINISTRATION OF LANDS AND FORESTS, COLONIZATION

Colonization is so connected with the administration of public lands that we thought we should deal with both subjects under the same heading.

AREA OF LANDS

Previous to 1898 the area of the lands of the Province was about.....	129,000.000	acres
Following the removing further back of the northern limits and the annexation of the the territories of Abitibi, Ashwamipi and Mistassini in 1898, the area of provincial lands was increased by.....	91,000.000	"
The annexation of Ungava added about...	225,000.000	"
Therefore its total area to-day is about.....	445,000.000	"
Out of which, there has been granted:		
1. In fiefs and seigniories about.	10,700.000	"
2. By Letters patent.....	11,500.000	"
	22,200.000	"
	422,800.000	"

The area of lands under provincial administration is then about 422,800.000 acres

ANNEXATION OF UNGAVA

Ungava is situated to the north of our province, between Hudson Bay and the Atlantic. Its area is 227,179,520 acres, a little more than the Province of Quebec. It is rich in forests and water-falls.

As all are aware, this territory which belonged to the Federal Government has just been annexed to the Province of Quebec.

This annexation is the result of negotiation by the Gouin Government with the Federal Government.

REORGANIZATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LANDS

The labor involved in the administration of the public domain is so great that the Gouin Government thought it wise to divide the former work of the Department of Lands.

This was done after the session of 1905.

The branches of mines, fisheries, game, and the cadastre were detached from the lands department and united in the colonization branch under a new minister, and the Minister of Lands can now give all his attention to lands and forests.

REVENUE FROM WOODS AND FORESTS

Our forests constitute one of our best sources of revenue. And the Government, as it had promised, has striven to obtain greater and greater revenue from them, while insuring their preservation and perpetuation.

The following statement shows the revenue from forests for the years 1897, 1911, and 1914-15.

	1897	1911	1914-15
Ground rent.....	\$155,572.54	\$221,215.50	\$359,834.00
Timber dues.....	607,865.33	821,719.37	1,288,708.83
Transfer fees.....	3,522.50	31,444.00	10,002.00
Interest and fines.....	11,317.41	52,528.83	43,716.94
Timber limit sales.....	4,025.20		34,343.85
Total.....	\$782,303.53	\$1,126,907.70	\$1,736,605.62

As may be seen the revenue has increased by 122% since 1897, and by 54% since 1911.

INCREASE OF STUMPAGE DUES

In 1912, the Government increased the stumpage dues and ground rents payable by timber merchants. These dues had not been changed for ever so many years. The Tariff of ground rent was raised from \$3 to \$5 and the stumpage dues by about 50%.

This new tariff was certainly not exorbitant, since the Ontario Government thought fit to immediately follow the example of

Quebec. Thanks to that increase, the Province, during these last four years, has derived from its woods and forests a revenue of \$6,370,000.00, say 71% of the amount derived during the decade from 1890 to 1900 and 57% of the amount collected from the same source during the decade from 1900 to 1910.

SCHOOL OF FORESTRY AND FORESTRY SERVICE

The creation of a forestry service hereafter forming an absolutely distinct branch of the administration of the Department of Crown Lands, had for a long time been necessary, and the Government was aware of it.

However, in order to establish it a competent staff was necessary, which did not exist and which it was requisite to have trained.

In 1910, the Hon. Mr. Allard, Minister of Lands and Forests, had an Act passed granting a subsidy to assist in the creation and maintenance of a school of forestry in the Province. This Act provided for a grant of \$4000 for 1910-11 and of \$5000 for the following years. This grant is now \$8000.00.

With the development of the country, more method will be necessary in the exploitation of forests and a greater number of Forestry Engineers will be needed.

Mr. Fernow, professor of Forestry, at Toronto University, warmly congratulated the Gouin Government upon its initiative at the convention of the Forestry Association in Quebec, in January, 1911.

The Forestry Association itself voted the following resolution :

Whereas, the forests of Canada are a great national asset, and, whereas the welfare of our agriculture, health and climatic conditions, as well as the national prosperity of the country depend upon the proper and scientific care of the forest areas;

Therefore Resolved, that this Convention commends the action of the province of Quebec in employing technically trained Foresters in its service, and recommends to the other Provinces of Canada the importance of this policy.

New Brunswick has already adopted our system, along its broad lines, for the organization of its Forestry service and the supervision of its limber limits. A former pupil of the Quebec

Forestry School is even at the service of that Province.) Requests have been made to certain high functionaries of the Quebec Government by wealthy lumber manufacturers of St. John, to allow the pupils graduating from the Forestry School to take situations in the Forestry service which New Brunswick has organized.

PROTECTION OF FORESTS AGAINST FIRE

Fire is certainly one of the greatest enemies of the forests. It has already destroyed the best parts of our domain and caused us the loss of millions.

It was therefore important to take the best possible precautions against the repetition of such destruction.

We know all the care that the Gouin Government has given to this question.

The Hon. M. Allard, Minister of Lands, has completely reorganized this branch of the administration.

For the past three years special supervision has been made over the territory under timber license.

The results of this policy of foresight were not long delayed. The forest fires have decreased by an average proportion of 35% throughout the whole Province.

The Government has in this way saved millions in value of our forest domain, and this initiative of the Minister of Lands is to be added to the numerous reforms of public interest to the credit of the Provincial Government.

The association for the protection of the forests of the St. Maurice which held its meeting on the 10th of February, 1916, wished to signalize the success of this work and its president Mr. Wilson publicly praised the work accomplished and tendered his thanks and congratulations to the Hon. Mr. Allard.

Mr. Wilson however thought it advisable to make a contrast between the good work done on this point by the Quebec Government and the culpable negligence of the Ottawa Government on the same question.

According to what Mr. Wilson asserts the Federal Government has done nothing to ensure the protection of our forests. He attributes the most of the forest fires that occurred during

the year 1915 to the negligence of the railways which are under the direction of the authorities at Ottawa.

And it is in this way that we may compare with advantage the efficacious work and administration of the Provincial Government in forestry matters with the total indifference of the Borden Government on this important subject.

The following is a letter which was addressed to the Honorable Mr. Allard by the secretary of the Canadian Northern Railway System."

23328-15 CANADIAN NORTHERN RAILWAY SYSTEM

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Toronto, Aug. 23th, 1915.

The honourable Louis J. Allard,
Minister of Lands & Forests,
Quebec, P. Q.

My dear Mr. Allard,

I have just been informed by a timber expert in the United States, that the province of Quebec has the finest fire ranging system known to day in America. I am writing you because I know you have the interest of the country at heart, and I feel that the information I wish should be spread broadcast and used as much as possible.

May I, therefore, ask that you send me a map, on a large scale, showing all the timber berths protected in the fire-ranging system, also any information which you have regarding the business end of the system, the number of rangers, the ground they cover, the way the property is laid out, the expenses, and any other matters which would give me a good insight into the system ; also what the railways are charged as their proportion ; and their own suggestions as to any improvement which you think could be made in this system.

I would appreciate receiving this information very much, and I sincerely hope that you will pardon me for troubling you in this matter, but it is undoubtedly important to us, reaching in Canada as we do from coast to coast. I would like to go thoroughly into this matter and if you prefer I will write to the fire ranging company, but I thought that you have all the information and maps on hand.

Again thanking you, I beg to remain,

Yours very truly,

(Signed) W. W. SLOAN,

S. H.

During the last session, the Government amended the law and it was enacted that any settler might light brush fires in summer; for this, he has only to ask the permission of the Minister of Lands and Forests.

There is not only the St. Maurice Forest Protective Association that has recognized the part of merit that the Government is entitled to for the conservation and the protection of our forest wealth. A Conservative paper of Montreal, the "Evening News," wrote on the 30th of August, 1915:

"There have been so many warnings sounded in regard to the waste of Canada's timber resources that it is good to think that, in this respect at least, the Province of Quebec appears to be conserving its birthright to a greater extent than some of its sister-provinces.

"According to recently published information, the forests of Quebec are valued at not less than \$450,000,000. This is naturally the present value, but there is no doubt that before 1906, when the question of the forest regions was taken into serious consideration, vast territories were destroyed by forest fires, caused the most part of the time by the simple negligence of certain settlers and by the want of well traced out lanes now recognized as the most effective means of preventing forest fires from spreading.

"There is also no doubt that in the past the Province has lost timber to the value of millions of dollars on account of the want of effective forestry service and the absence of a proper organization.

"All this however has been lately established and is shown as making great progress. This organization is in charge of experts, probably the highest and most experienced in the Dominion, and the members of their staff are taken from the students of a forestry school recognized and supported by the Provincial authorities.

"With the reforms already mentioned, and, in addition, the setting aside of vast reserves, far larger than those of any other Province in the Dominion, it appears safe to say that Quebec's forest resources are not being neglected. To maintain and develop this policy will mean a substantial accumulation of wealth for the Province."

· WATER POWERS AND CONTROL OF RUNNING WATERS

There are numerous rivers, lakes, ponds, creeks, and water-courses of different kinds, in this Province, and it is important, both in the interest of the forests and for the complete and perfect utilization of the water powers herein, to establish such rules for the general management of running waters as will reconcile the interests of agriculture, of industrial pursuits, and of the forests, with respect for the rights of property;

Therefore, the Government in 1910, obtained authorization to appoint a commission of experts in hydrography and the management of forests.

This Commission has not neglected either, the most practical immediate questions, such as the storing of waters for the purpose of regulating the flow of the water courses and thus abate floods and supply manufacturers with greater hydraulic power.

The dams now under construction on the Higher St. Maurice and on the St. Francis rivers are sufficient proof of its activity. The first, at La Loutre rapids, will be the largest reservoir in the world being four times larger than the Assouan reservoir in Egypt constructed some years ago by the Imperial Government at a cost eight times greater than that on the St. Maurice. As to the second, it will be of great benefit to the fertile and industrial valley of the St. Francis, while lessening to a considerable extent the damages formerly caused by floods.

In constituting the Quebec Streams Commission, the Government had also to provide for the administration of questions of almost daily occurrence, relating to water courses, and it is for such purpose that the Hydraulic Service was organized in 1911, to take charge of all matter pertaining to lakes and rivers. This branch, directed by hydraulic engineers, has now been in operation for almost six years.

Formerly, before 1897, waterfalls were sold as accessory to the adjacent lands.

Later on, after 1897, they were considered as the principal thing of value in conceding, the riparian lands being required as accessory to the falls. But they were sold outright and the grantee became proprietor of the fall when he had paid and fulfilled certain stipulated conditions.

According to the new methods, the water power will no longer be alienated, but be leased for a period of from 25 to 75 years and the province will receive, besides the price of sale and the annual fixed rent, an annual varying tax, based on the quantity of electric power produced.

The licensee must also develop, within certain delays, 50% of the total power of the water fall, which meets the objection formerly often made that speculators purchased power sites

for the sole purpose of later reselling same to bona fide manufacturers.

Besides, the Government may at the expiration of certain periods, increase the rate and change the method of payment of the annual rent.

THE DAMMING OF THE ST. MAURICE

Before entering into this undertaking the Government thoroughly informed itself of the cost of the work, the results to be obtained from the point of view of the increase of hydraulic power and of the revenue that the Province would derive therefrom.

The Hydraulic Service engineers estimated the cost of construction to be \$1,500,000.00 and that the water power would be greatly increased.

As to the revenue, the Shawinigan Water and Power Co. has agreed to pay \$80,000.00 annually for 40 years, the Laur-entide Company \$40,000.00 and the Brown Corporation \$10,000.00.

It was figured that the interest and the sinking fund, in keeping track of the initial expenses of the undertaking, would cost \$100,000.00 per annum at the most. Now, the Government will draw \$130,000.00 per annum from the three above mentioned companies. It is therefore one of the most advantageous transactions that can be made.

When it became known that the Province would profit by the construction of the dam, the Streams Commission called for tenders. After careful consideration of the offers of the nine tenders, the commission concluded that the two most serious were those of Mr. Gosselin and of the St. Maurice Construction Company. The first was for \$1,345,000.00 and the other \$1,425,000.00.

Because the contract was not awarded to Mr. Gosselin, the Conservatives are shouting scandal, and pretend that the Province is losing \$80,000.00 from the fact of the lowest tender not being accepted.

Why was the contract not giving to Mr. Gosselin? Simply because he refused to accept the conditions of payment submitted. He wanted to be paid en block and in advance at the outset of the undertaking, while the Government wanted to pay him every month, according as the work progressed as generally done in business.

The payment was to be made by debentures of the Province, Mr. Gosselin consented to accept the ten year debentures at par, on the condition that the Government deposited, before the commencement of the work, \$1,500,000.00 of debentures with the Banque National. This offer could not be accepted.

The other tenderer, the St. Maurice Construction Company agreed to take 30 year instead of the 10 year debentures as proposed by Mr. Gosselin, and did not require the Government to immediately issue the whole amount. Payment will be made in proportion as the work progresses.

If the Government had accepted Mr. Gosselin's proposal, it would have been forced to sell its debentures and would certainly not have realized more than 90%.

Now, 10% discount on \$1,345,000.00 represents \$134,500.00 which is the amount the Government has saved by awarding the contract to the St. Maurice Construction Company. This sum therefore greatly exceeds the \$80,000.00 that the Conservatives consider as lost to the Province.

As the Prime Minister said, during the course of the last session, when business like this is carried out, we are not ashamed to walk with a high head and we have no fear of the verdict of the electors.

As to any scandal, there is none, and the Opposition have so well recognized this that they did not dare ask for an inquiry respecting this contract. They contented themselves, as in the matter of the Bordeaux Prison, to propose a motion of non confidence.

FOREST RESERVES

In 1905, there were no forest reserves in the Province of Quebec, for the Laurentides National Park was, properly

speaking, more of a game and fishing reserve. Since that time the Gouin Government has successively created the following reserves:

	Square miles.
Gaspé Park.....	2,523 $\frac{1}{3}$
Rimouski Reserve.....	1,249 $\frac{2}{3}$
Chaudière Reserve.....	156
Temiscouata Reserve.....	227
Bonaventure Reserve.....	1,733
Labrador Reserve.....	110,000
Barachois Reserve.....	113
St. Maurice Reserve.....	21,121
Ottawa Reserve.....	27,652
Rivière-Ouelle Reserve.....	340
Total.....	165,115

Which, with the National Park, makes a total area of 107,767,253 acres. In respect to forest reserves, we leave all the other provinces of the Dominion in the shade, and we lead the American continent. We have more forest reserves in the Province of Quebec than there are in all the United States of America.

Ontario has 14,430,270 acres of land in forest reserves, Manitoba, 2,606,400, Saskatchewan 6,915,705, Alberta 16,813,376, British Columbia, 2,417,638 within the territory traversed by railways and 2,474,240 in other parts of the Province. Two thirds of the forest reserves of Canada are therefore situated in our province.

TOWNSHIP FOREST RESERVES

The Government, in 1911, also had a law passed to authorize the establishment of forest reserves in townships.

These reserves are created with a view to helping farmers who have no more timber on their properties.

Since, 20 forest reserves in townships have been created with a total superficies of 267,709 acres or 418.3 square miles.

PROHIBITION TO EXPORT TIMBER CUT ON CROWN LANDS

The undertaking made by the Government in 1901 not to change the regulations respecting woods and forests expired on the 1st September, 1910.

Since the 1st September 1910, under an order adopted in council by the Gouin Government, timber cut on Crown lands cannot be exported unless it has previously been manufactured in some way in Canada.

By an Order-in-Council of the month of April, 1914, the Government also prohibited the exportation of timber, in the raw state, out on Crown lands given as subsidies to railway companies. These innovations resulted in the establishing of numerous new factories and mills in our province and a great increase in the capacity of those already established.

The following facts are very interesting.

In 1910, the pulp mills of Quebec had an aggregate production of 282,938 tons against 515,409 in 1914, an increase of 82% in five years.

Of the 49 companies operating pulp mills in Canada, in 1914, there were 23 in the Province of Quebec operating 31 mills. During the same year, 1,224,376 cords of wood were converted into pulp in Canada and of this quantity, 636,496 cords or 52% were used in the Province of Quebec.

The total value of the pulp has been fixed at \$8,089,868, for all the provinces as a whole. Quebec's share of this was \$4,148,405. If, to the latter sum, be added the value of pulp wood exported (\$4,734,494) a total of \$8,882,899 is reached, which represents the amount yielded by this industry to the Province of Quebec in 1914.

In spite of the industrial crisis caused by the war, the pulp mills of Quebec have used a greater quantity of cord wood in 1914 than in 1913.

(Statistical Year-Book of 1915, page 479).

BERTHIER NURSERY AND REFORESTATION

In order to encourage the planting and replanting of trees on lands not suitable for cultivation, and also to try to acclimatize in this Province certain foreign species, the Gouin Government established a nursery at Berthier.

This nursery contains close to 1,200,000 plants of all varieties, of an estimated value of \$10,000,000 at the least, which is more than the Government paid for the farm where this nursery is established.

Last year over 100,000 plants grown in this nursery were employed by private individuals in different reforestation trials.

Let us add that, at Lachute, the Government has taken the initiative of reforesting the shifting sands with a view of protecting the adjacent farms from being gradually covered over with sand.

SALE OF LANDS FIT FOR SETTLEMENT.

The sale of settlement lands has been under the control of the Minister of Lands since 1869.

The sale is made through the lands agents, but the power of the agent and of the Minister have not always been the same.

Thus, from 1888 to 1900, a sale made by the agent was subject to the approval of the Minister.

From 1900 to 1904, the sale made by the agent was valid, if it was not disapproved by the Minister within four months.

In 1904, the control which the Minister previously had over the land was removed and it was decreed that the agent should sell, under penalty of a fine, any lot fit for cultivation applied for by anybody giving the affidavit required by law.

The favor granted by the law of 1904 was abused. Many persons bought lots, not to cultivate them, but to cut timber or to resell them to sawmill owners. Besides, as the Minister had no control over the sales, the lots were granted without any system, and the settlers, instead of being grouped together, were scattered through the forest.

It was to remedy these abuses that the statute of 1909 was proposed and passed.

THE LANDS ACT OF 1909.

The changes made in 1909 to the law and regulations respecting lands have been criticised. They are nevertheless wise ones.

Let us judge from the following comparisons.

Previously, the land agents were bound to sell any lot classified as cultivable, in any part of the province. To-day, the

sale can only be made in townships designated by the Minister of Lands. This is an excellent means of grouping settlers, of even forming new settlements.

Before the changes the settler was only obliged to cultivate 10% of his lot. He now has to cultivate at least 15%.

Before the changes, the settler could clear one tenth of his lot in the first year. To-day, he cannot clear more than five acres a year, unless by special permission of the Minister of Lands. Formerly, speculators would cut 10 acres of timber under pretence of clearing, clear no land for cultivation and the Government lost all the timber. The new rule is a better guarantee for clearing the land and protects the Government against the speculations of false settlers.

Before the changes, the settler had to build a house within six months from date of his location ticket and to live in it for two years at least. The delay was not long enough and the house was very likely to burn the first time the choppings were burned. Today, the settler has 18 months to build his house and he must inhabit it for three years and a half.

Before the changes, the settler had the right to take two lots, To-day, he is only entitled to one lot of 125 acres at the most, unless he has four children living.

Before the changes, he could sell his rights and so serve as a middle-man for speculators, owners of sawmills, etc. To-day, he cannot transfer his rights for five years, except by gift or will in the direct line, or by intestate succession.

As may be seen, all the changes are intended to better protect the Crown against speculators and to further insure the clearing of conceded lots.

It is said that the Government has stopped colonization, by decreeing that the settler shall not be entitled to clear more than five acres a year, without the Minister's authorization. Well, how many settlers since 1909 have asked for authorization to clear more than five acres? Two.

It is said that the law of 1909 has driven away all our settlers to Ontario, where the law favors them, and that colonization is dead in this province. This is false.

Colonization is very much alive in this province as we will show further on,

Moreover, if the Ontario Lands Act is so favorable to coloniza-

tion, how is it that Ontario farmers are emigrating to the Western provinces? How is it that the new districts in the north-west part of that province wish to be separated from Ontario and to be annexed to Manitoba or form a distinct province?

LOTS CONCEDED

It is said that settlers cannot get lots. The following statistics show the contrary:

Number of lots conceded

From 1892 to 1897 (5 years).....	7,937
From 1910-11 to 1915 (5 years)....	10,099
Increase.....	<hr/> 2,162

Area in acres of conceded lots

From 1892 to 1897 (5 years).....	788,582
From 1910-11 to 1915 (5 years)....	901,838
Increase.....	<hr/> 113,256

From 1906 to 1915, over 20,000 lots of total superficies of close to 1,900,000 acres were conceded.

LETTERS PATENT GRANTED FOR SALE OF LOTS

	Number
From 1892 to 1897 (5 years).....	2,604
From 1910 to 1915 (5 years).....	7,821
Increase.....	<hr/> 5,217

From 1869 to 1905 (35 years) 25,457 letters patent were issued.

From 1905 to 1915 (10 years), 14,292 letters patent were issued.

In the last ten years, almost as many letters patent were issued as in the twenty preceding years.

It is said: True, you conceded lots, but you cancelled the sales.

Doubtless, there have been cancellations in the past six

years, but if they have been more numerous than formerly, it is because under the law of 1904, as we have already explained, sales were made which should not have been made, sales which the Minister had no power to prevent, and it was also owing to the testing of the system of automatic cancellation which was in force from 1904 to 1908.

Besides, from 1892 to 1897, the sale of 204,825 acres of land, about 26 p. c. of the area conceded, was cancelled.

ONTARIO LANDS ACT

Ontario is often cited. According to the Opposition the Ontario Lands Act favors settlers in every way. This is another unfounded statement.

In Ontario the first care is to protect the forest. Lots are not obtained without formalities. And, when granted, they are cancelled for default to 'accomplish certain conditions. In fact, in 1911, the Ontario Department of Lands cancelled half as many lots as it conceded.

We may add that in districts where free grants are given, the pine remains the property of the Government and that the lumber merchants can even before the issuing of the letters patent go and cut the pine on the settler's lot.

THE CONSERVATIVES AND THE SETTLERS

What did the Conservatives do from 1892 to 1897 for the settlers?

The following interpellation shows us their friendship for the settlers and the particular care they took of them.

By Mr. Morisset:—1. Did the de Boucherville, Taillon and Flynn Governments exempt the settlers who sold, ceded or exchanged their lots from the payment of the tax imposed in 1892 on transfers of property?

2. Was that tax collected from licensees of timber limits who transferred their holdings?

Answer by the Honourable Mr. Mackenzie.

1. No.

2. No. The tax did not apply to such transfers. (V. and P. 1912 page 100).

In 1892, the House appointed a Select Committee to ascertain the causes of the emigration movement which was then

taking place from our country parts. The Chairman of the Committee was Mr. Chicoyne who submitted quite a voluminous and very interesting report.

This report which forms part of the Journals of the Legislature of 1893 suggested a radical change in the Lands Act to put an end to the grievances accounted for in that report. Now, the Conservatives were in power for five years. Have they remedied the grievances pointed out by Mr. Chicoyne and his Colleagues of the Committee of 1892?

Did they make the changes in the law suggested by that Committee?

Did they stimulate the agents' zeal?

Not at all. Their work was nil.

COLONIZATION ROADS

The Government has not only interested itself in improving the roads in the old parishes, but it has also seen to the opening of roads everywhere where settlers are grouped or can be grouped.

"The road should precede the settler," such seems to now be the principal of the Minister of Colonization.

The following are a few of the roads built or to be built in colonization centres:

Mercier Road in Bonaventure, (40 miles); Maritime Road, in Gaspé, (25 miles); Devlin Road, in Labelle, (20 miles); Mistassini Road, in Lake St. John, (26 miles); Nedelec and Montreuil Township Road, in Temiscaming, (20 miles);

The following is a statement of the sums spent for colonization roads since 1905.

1905-1906.....	\$ 134,000.00
1906-1907.....	134,000.00
1907-1908.....	144,000.00
1908-1909.....	215,000.00
1909-1910.....	170,000.00
1910-1911.....	216,857.69
1911-1912.....	228,336.10
1912-1913.....	217,206.01
1913-1914.....	249,545.47
1914-1915.....	225,000.00

Total for 10 years..... \$1,933,945.97

(Statistical Year Book 1915 p. 272)

From 1892 to 1897, the sums intended for colonization roads were distributed according to the requirements of the Conservative cause.

Thus, out of the \$100,000 voted for colonization roads, Mr. Chapais devoted \$23,150 to visits and explorations. What pastoral visits the good Mr. Chapais was going to make with that amount!

Here is a statement of the amounts spent for colonization roads in each county of the Province, during the last ten years!

Counties	Total
Argenteuil.....	26,555.95
Arthabaska.....	12,604.15
Bagot.....	200.00
Beauce.....	42,958.02
Bellechasse.....	39,265.15
Berthier.....	25,796.57
Bonaventure.....	100,586.83
Brôme.....	1,224.57
Chambly.....	300.00
Champlain.....	17,050.94
Charlevoix.....	4,579.31
Charlevoix & Saguenay.....	18,007.50
Chicoutimi-Saguenay.....	67,099.61
Chicoutimi.....	29,958.68
Châteauguay.....	770.98
Compton.....	7,922.22
Dorchester.....	29,148.58
Drummond.....	4,118.87
Frontenac.....	7,993.49
Gaspé.....	76,140.38
Huntingdon.....	1,899.04
Joliette.....	30,870.99
Kamouraska.....	23,010.97
L'Assomption.....	650.00
Lake St. John.....	179,729.40
Labelle.....	73,546.61
Laprairie.....	200.00
Lévis.....	100.00
L'Islet.....	19,333.04
Lotbinière.....	8,478.00
Maskinongé.....	15,956.84
Matane.....	81,459.09
Magdalen Islands.....	9,819.53
Mégantic.....	11,751.07
Missisquoi.....	324.82
Montcalm.....	8,918.01

Montmagny.....	12,183.48
Montmorency.....	16,760.30
Napierville.....	100.00
Nicolet.....	21,896.14
Ottawa.....	222,424.44
Pontiac.....	89,141.95
Portneuf.....	29,286.71
Québec.....	9,012.92
Richmond.....	10,352.31
Rimouski.....	37,575.82
Rouville.....	580.00
St. Maurice.....	14,371.41
Shefford.....	1,123.47
Sherbrooke.....	7,247.84
Stanstead.....	3,532.28
Témiscouata.....	93,288.85
Témiscamingue including l'Abitibi.....	147,184.97
Terrebonne.....	24,454.63
Two Mountains.....	895.58
Vaudreuil.....	2,612.80
Wolfe.....	11,727.29
Yamaska.....	593.50
Sundry amounts paid out of the subsidy for colonization roads.	186,612.52
Total amount for the 1 years.	<u>\$1,921,945.97</u>

ABITIBI

To give a better idea of the progress of colonization, let us mention what has happened in Abitibi in the last four years.

In 1912, it had only a few settlers. In 1913, its population was 329 the following year 951; in 1915 it reached 1254, and finally at the beginning of 1916 it exceeded 2000 souls.

COLONIZATION ROADS AND BRIDGES IN ABITIBI

Putting into practice the maxim "Roads should precede the settler," the Government has caused several roads to be opened up to enable the settlers to have access between their farms and the village or the station, etc. The length of roads finished last year in part or in whole was over 160 miles. The Government has also caused bridges to be built over the rivers crossed by these roads.

During the last four years the Government has expended the sum of \$125,202.94 for colonization work in this region. The greater part of this amount has been earned by the settlers themselves whom the Government employed for the making of the roads.

SALE OF LOTS AND CLEARING

From 1912 to 1915 inclusive the Government sold, in Abitibi, 2379½ colonization lots. Out of this number the sale of 590½ was revoked. That is to say that there are at the present moment nearly 1800 lots under location ticket.

In the summer of 1914, there were already about 1200 acres under cultivation and 2000 acres with timber cut down. From information of the Department of Colonization the figures we have just quoted have varied considerably during the course of last summer and the area of land under cultivation or cleared is not far from being doubled. Several settlers have already obtained their letters patent and some of them have even ploughed up a good part of their land.

THE TRANSCONTINENTAL

The progress of colonization in Abitibi would have been still more rapid and considerable if the Conservatives, at Ottawa, had not shown the utmost bad faith in the operation of the Transcontinental. There is not a single means they did not make use of to make our Province lose the advantages of this railway. They first of all boycotted the city of Quebec; they then maliciously retarded the operation of the portion of the line running through the northern part of our Province; the running of the trains is absolutely irregular; the transportation rates are exorbitant, etc.

Because the Transcontinental belongs to the people of Canada the Government is letting it fall into ruin and deprives the people of the services of a railroad built at their own cost.

TEMISCAMINGUE

Another colonization region that has made considerable progress in latter times, is Temiscamingue.

If Monseigneur Latulippe is to be believed, the population of this region was 5947 souls, in 1909; now, Ecclesiastical Canada gives it, in 1914, a population of 7858. That is to say that within a period of five years the number of inhabitants increased by 32%.

Since Confederation 5226 lots have been sold for colonization purposes in this territory. The Liberals, since 1897, have sold 4359 of them. Here is a victorious reply to those who pretend that the Government refuses lots to real settlers!

Since 1905, six new parishes and three missions have been founded in Temiscamingue. They are: St. Bruno, St. Gabriel, St. Placide, St. Louis, St. Eugène, Lac Rond, N. D. de Mont-Carmel, Lorrainville and Latulippe. These parishes or missions have a population of 4500.

From the first of July, 1900, up to the 22nd of January, 1916, the sum of \$141,837.98 was spent for colonization purposes in this region.

The Government has spared no efforts to obtain a railway for the inhabitants of Temiscamingue. It had succeeded in convincing the C. P. R. which had already started the work when the war broke out. Since the month of August 1914, the work has been stopped, but it is to be hoped that it will be taken up again when financial conditions will permit.

THE PROGRESS OF COLONIZATION AND OF AGRICULTURE

It is pretended in certain quarters that colonization is dead and that agriculture is on the decline in this Province, while in Ontario they are progressing.

The following are some statistics on the subject that will not be challenged:

Increase of population in each county of the Province of Quebec.

(d signifies decrease)

Counties	From 1881 to 1901 (20 years)	From 1901 to 1911 (10 years)
Argenteuil.....	1,460	359
Bagot..... (d)	3,201	25
Beauce.....	11,109	8,270
Beauharnois.....	5,727	(d) 930
Bellechasse.....	1,792	2,435
Berthier..... (d)	1,542	(d) 108
Bonaventure.....	5,587	3,615
Brôme..... (d)	2,430	(d) 181
Chambly & Verchères.....	1,011	4,397
Champlain.....	8,341	10,743
Charlevoix.....	1,433	1,303
Châteauguay..... (d)	384	(d) 261
Chicoutimi, Saguenay & Lake St. John.....	15,882	15,050
Compton.....	6,879	3,170
Two Mountains..... (d)	1,456	(d) 570
Dorchester.....	2,297	4,089
Drummond & Arthabaska.....	7,124	2,591
Gaspé & Magdalen Islands.....	5,682	4,318
Hochelaga.....	40,265	18,133
Huntingdon..... (d)	1,516	(d) 739
Jacques-Cartier.....	9,555	38,855
Joliette.....	267	1,656
Kamouraska..... (d)	3,082	1,789
Labelle.....	10,977	7,456
Laprairie & Napierville..... (d)	2,740	(d) 298
L'Assomption..... (d)	1,603	1,169
Laval.....	4,679	10,234
Lévis..... (d)	1,770	2,703
L'Islet..... (d)	478	1,996
Lotbinière..... (d)	818	2,119
Maisonneuve.....	51,623	105,800
Maskinongé..... (d)	1,680	696
Mégantic.....	6,565	7,436
Missisquoi..... (d)	723	127
Montcalm.....	35	861
Montmagny..... (d)	1,665	2,599
Montmorency..... (d)	11	904
Montreal, St. Ann.....	1,256	(d) 1,688
" St. Antoine.....	13,808	951
" St. James.....	14,254	1,442
" St. Lawrence.....	15,115	7,051
" St. Mary.....	17,898	14,280
Nicolet..... (d)	21	2,846

Pontiac.....		
Portneuf.....	5,783	3,693
Québec-centre.....	1,984	3,370
Québec-East.....	2,468	781
Québec-West.....	7,425	8,104
Québec-County..... (d)	3,499	478
Richelieu.....	1,823	3,743
Richmond & Wolfe..... (d)	518	1,168
Rimouski & Matane.....	7,798	5,354
Rouville.....	6,366	11,333
St. Hyacinthe..... (d)	5,594	270
St. John & Iberville..... (d)	1,118	799
Shefford.....	5,767	1,203
Sherbrooke.....	395	348
Soulanges.....	6,205	4,785
Stanstead..... (d)	292	528
Témiscouata.....	3,442	1,767
Terrebonne.....	3,701	7,245
Three Rivers & St. Maurice.....	3,847	2,220
Vaudreuil.....	3,885	6,842
Wright..... (d)	1,040	594
Yamaska..... (d)	15,322	5,502
	887	1,053
	<hr/> 289,871	<hr/> 353,814

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

So, from 1881 to 1901, that is in the space of twenty years the population of most of our counties increased less than in the last ten years.

From 1881 to 1901, in 24 counties the population decreased by 42,617 souls, being an average of 1775 per county.

From 1901 to 1911, in 11 counties there was a decrease of 6,642, being an average of 602 persons per county.

In Ontario, in 44 of the 85 counties there was a decrease in the population of 79,841 souls or an average of 1814 during the last decade.

Let us now see what was the increase in the rural population of the whole province, that is to say the population of all the country parts and of towns not having over 4,000 souls.

From 1871 to 1881.....	94,152	souls
1881 to 1891.....	25,239	"
1891 to 1901.....	50,032	"
1901 to 1911.....	100,455	"

In Ontario there was a decrease in the last decade of 15,000 souls.

Now let us separate the rural population of the old counties from that of the counties where settlement is being carried on:

QUEBEC

Old counties, decrease.....	16 000
Colonization counties, increase.....	116 000
Net increase	<u>100 000</u>

ONTARIO

Old counties, decrease.....	100 000
New Ontario, increase.....	85 000
Net increase	<u>15 000</u>

The Gazette, of the 1st February, 1916, said:—

"The federal census was taken in 1911. The figures of the provincial department for 1914 show the result of barely four years' changes. The comparison in the matter of population is as follows:

Municipal records, 1914.....	2,258,867
Federal census, 1911.....	2,003,232
Increase 1914 over 1911.....	<u>255,635</u>

Between 1901 and 1911, according to the federal census, the increase of the population of the province was 354,334, or at the rate of 21.50 per cent. in the ten years. This was by far the highest rate of any of the Eastern provinces. The figures above of the municipal reports indicate that it will be greatly excelled during the present ten years, and that when in 1921 the next federal census is taken it will give the province a population well over two and a half millions.

On the 21st January, 1916, it also said:

"Quebec for twenty years has been making progress at a rate some of her own people have not comprehended. Between 1900 and 1910, the census records shows that its agricultural production increased at a ratio nearly double that in the case of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick and many times that of Ontario. Its rural population did not seriously decline in any section, and in some places it increased."

The 4th January, 1916, it again said :

"... In this connection it is worth noting that Quebec, where socialism has least hold of the people, and where the legislators ignore it, the progress in commerce, in evidence of wealth, in population, is not only greater than in Ontario, but greater than in any part of eastern Canada."

And in its issue of the 26th May, 1914, we find :

"According to late figures of the Census and Statistics Office at Ottawa, Quebec, in 1909 had 14,424,000 acres of its area occupied as farm land, while Ontario had 21,305,000 acres. In 1914, Quebec had 15,576,000 acres so occupied, while Ontario had 21,933,000 acres. Quebec's increase in 5 years was 1,152,000 acres and Ontario's 628,000 acres. When the rest of the country is shaken out of its lethargy and abandons its dear deception that Quebec is a slow province, the people will be sending delegations this way to learn how progress is made."

EXODUS TOWARDS THE CITIES.

It is stated that the farmers and their sons are leaving the country to go and live in the cities and towns ; it is even pretended that the country parts are losing 10,000 of their inhabitants in this way each year.

The figures of the census show the absurdity of such assertion.

It is true that the sons of the farmers in the old counties are migrating towards the towns. But that is because there is no more land to be cleared in those counties. Besides as Viscount d'Avenel said in his book "Les Français de mon Temps":

"The progress of agriculture contributes to the peopling of an empty country whose soil was lying waste ; but the increased use of agricultural implements in a country which has been inhabited for a long time contributes to the depopulation of the country parts because fewer persons are required to accomplish the same work."

This is what has happened in several old counties. Each farmer has enlarged his domain. He now cultivates 200 to 300 acres of land ; he employs almost no farm hands and the result is that the young men have to go and establish themselves elsewhere. But we no longer find the number of abandoned farms in the country as were found in 1896. And so

few properties are sold to-day by judicial sale that the Opposition are asking that the office of Sheriff be abolished.

On the other hand the exodus from the rural parts to the towns is a feature of all periods and of all countries and the problem exists everywhere.

In 1892, the de Boucherville Government, appointed a Select Committee for the special purposes of ascertaining the causes of this exodus from rural parts to towns.

This Committee made a report contained in the Journals of 1893, pages 375 and following. This is what we read in this report :

It may be said that the exodus of the rural population is a feature as old as the country itself.

Besides, this exodus from rural parts to towns is a feature of all periods, has taken place under all climates, all forms of government and under all regimes.

Then, the report contains the following statements :

" That agriculture is greatly on the decline in the Province of Quebec, cannot be denied.

The Province of Quebec not only does not feed its urban population but even in the rural parts, in several localities, western cereals gradually take the place of native production.

And Ontario, which is always cited to us as a model province, has not escaped this evil which is afflicting the country.

On the 17th January, 1911, the Deputy-Minister of Agriculture of Ontario said before the Conservative Committee :

" The rural population of Ontario, in 1909, stood exactly at the same figure that it did in 1872, viz. 1,050,000."

On the 18th June, 1910, Mr. J. W. Flavelle, proprietor of the *Toronto News*, a conservative organ, sent a letter to the Minister of Agriculture of Ontario, in which are the following passages :

" You have permitted, you are now permitting, thousands of young Ontario farmers, the cream of our agricultural people, to leave their own province for the West, while by your inertia you indicate you are not cognizant of the advantages of continued residence in this province."

.....
" Why is there enterprise and development in every field of activity in this province except agriculture? "

It is often said : Why does not the Government encourage intensive cultivation, of root-crops ? Why ? Because, as Paul Leroy Beaulieu says in his book "La Colonisation chez les peuples modernes" in new countries where there is still land awaiting clearing, extensive farming must be done before intensive cultivation is thought of.

FOR WORKMEN

Here, in brief, is what workmen owe to the Liberal Party.

The Liberals, as we have said, have given considerable subsidies to night schools, schools of arts and manufactures, as well as for the foundation of technical schools. Now, it is the workingmen who will derive the greatest benefit from such liberality.

But they have done still more for the working classes.

They have established the Board of Factory Inspectors we now have and which is said by competent authorities on the subject, to be the best organized one in America.

They have established Councils of Conciliation and Arbitration for the settlement of disputes between capital and labor.

They have made the use of special apparatus for the prevention of accidents compulsory.

They have organized a board of examiners to ascertain the qualifications of engineers and of inspectors of steam boilers.

They have amended the law so as to place all public buildings under the supervision of the factory inspectors.

They have amended the law respecting factories and public buildings so as to protect health and secure the comfort of those who work in them.

They have regulated the conditions under which women and children can be called upon to work in factories.

In 1907, they had it enacted that no child under 14 years of age shall be employed in factories.

In 1907, they had it enacted that girls and boys under 16 shall not be employed in factories unless they can read or write, or unless they attend a night school.

They have had it enacted that the benefits to which members of mutual benefit societies are entitled, as well as the life

rents created under the Federal Act of 1908, are not liable to seizure.

In 1906, the Gouin Government had an act passed authorizing the formation of co-operative syndicates.

In 1906, the Gouin Government had a severe measure enacted against usury.

In 1907, the Government also appointed a Commission to solve the question of accidents to workmen. That Commission has made a report and an act has been passed for the better protection of workmen, who are victims of accidents.

In 1908, the Gouin Government made the inspection of scaffoldings used by builders compulsory.

In 1908, the Gouin Government got the House to adopt a resolution to secure fair wages for workmen employed on public contracts or works subsidized by the State.

In 1909, the Gouin Government appointed a Commission for the protection of consumers and the public against the abuses by Public Utility Companies, such as transportation, water-work, light, heat, etc., companies.

In 1909, it established, in Montreal, a museum of apparatus for preventing accidents to workmen.

In 1910, it had itself authorized to establish employment bureaus in cities and towns. Two bureaus were opened, one in Montreal and the other in Quebec, in April 1911; and a third was opened at Sherbrooke in 1912. From the opening of the Montreal bureau up to June 30, 1915, close to 40,000 applications for employment, from men and women, had been received. From the 30th June, 1914 to the 30th June, 1915, 5,300 applications were received. During the same period, the Quebec bureau received 2,400 applications and secured 500 situations for applicants.

In 1912, the Gouin Government obtained authorization for school boards to supply children with free school books.

In 1912, it had a law passed compelling the owners of textile factories not to employ women and children for more than 55 hours a week.

In 1912, it abolished the real estate qualification for the position of alderman of Montreal.

In 1912, it removed from the charter of the city of Montreal the section which disfranchised ratepayers who had not paid the water tax.

In 1912, it abolished costs in suits under \$25.

In 1912, it obtained authority to appoint representatives of the working classes on the boards of directors of the Quebec and Montreal technical schools.

In 1912, it caused to be inserted in the Election Act the principle of "One man, one vote" and so placed the workman on an equal footing with the millionaire or large property owner.

Besides, during the summers of 1913-1914, and 1915, it gave employment on the roads to a great number of workmen who were out of work, on account of the financial and industrial crisis.

In 1914, it had a law passed relating to sanitary dwellings whereby the municipalities are authorized to guarantee, on first-mortgage security, the loans made by companies for the construction of dwelling houses for workmen. The municipal guarantee cannot exceed 85% of the value of the lands and buildings made thereon.

On the other hand, the books of the assisted company are open to inspection and the dividends upon the capital invested cannot exceed 6%. Therefore the rental of such houses is necessarily low. Unhappily this law has not yet given the good results which the working class had a right to expect of it. But it is to be hoped, the crisis over, that companies will be organized which taking advantage of that law will construct sanitary and hygienic dwelling houses for the working class.

In 1914, it had passed a law relating to stationary engineers.

VARIOUS OTHER WORKS DONE AND REFORMS ACCOMPLISHED SINCE 1897.

In 1898, the extending of the territory of the Province through the delimitation of its boundaries ;

Revision of the School laws ;

Revision of Health laws ;

Revision of the Cities and Town's Act ;

Revision of the Railway Act ;

Revision of the Companies' Act ;

Revision of the Election Act ;

Revision of the Mining Law ;

- Revision of the Game and Fishery laws ;
- Passing of an act respecting electric railways ;
- Revision of the Statutes ;
- Revision of the Municipal Code ;
- Revision and amendment of the Insurance Act so as to secure greater guarantees for the public ;
- An act to authorize life insurance in favor of educational establishments ;
- Appointment of a Commission to inquire into matters pertaining to Colonization ;
- Classification of public lands into lands fit for cultivation and lands unfit for the same.
- Special encouragement of dairying by the installation of ripening rooms and cold storage in butter and cheese factories ;
- An act authorizing the formation of breeders' syndicates ;
- importation of stallions for the improvement of the breeds of draught horses ;
- An act for the suppression of usury ;
- An act respecting the observance of Sunday ;
- An act to prohibit the sale of intoxicating liquors during municipal elections ;
- Amendment of the License Law to protect our population against the plague of alcoholism ;
- An act respecting the labor of prisoners and providing for the distribution of the revenue from such labor to the prisoners' families ;
- An act to authorize the establishment of co-operative syndicates ;
- An act respecting the granting of certain privileges, rights and franchise for over ten years by municipalities ;
- Numerous judicial reforms ;
- Increase in the number of judges to make the administration of justice more expeditious ;
- Restriction of the appeal to the Privy Council and to the Court of Appeal, to make law-suits less expensive ;
- Increase on two occasions of the indemnity of jurors ;
- Establishment of a court of sessions of the peace ;
- Establishment of a court for juvenile offenders ;
- Creation of new judicial districts at Lake St. John and Temiscamingue ;

Reestablishment of the pension of public officers abolished in 1892 ;

Creation of a Commission to supervise public utilities ;

Appointment of a Commission to ascertain the best means of combating tuberculosis ;

Subsidizing sanatoria and hospitals for consumptives ;

An act enacting that suits for the recovery of seigniorial rents can only be taken after fifteen days' notice has been given to the debtor by registered letter ;

An act to authorize county and local municipalities to redeem constituted seigniorial rents affecting lands situated in their limits ;

Regulation of lump sales in order to prevent fraud ;

Establishment of an agency in London ;

Appointment of a Park Commission for the Island of Montreal ;

Encouragement for cultivation of music ;

Increasing the salary of employees in the public services ;

Creating a Department of Roads ;

Reorganizing our system of health inspection ;

Redistribution of electoral districts and increasing the representation ;

Establishment of an agency in Brussels ;

Creation of a Bureau of Statistics ;

Creation of a Board of Censors for Moving Pictures ;

Passing of a law encouraging municipalities to provide against fires, etc., etc.

REPLIES TO SOME CRITICISMS

PRIVATE BILLS

To listen to the Conservatives the Quebec Legislature is nothing else but a sort of factory where private bills are manufactured by the bushel.

The following is a table showing the falsity of this assertion:

CONSERVATIVE REGIME

1892.....	55 and 56 Victoria.....	66 private bills
1893.....	56 ".....	55 " "
1894.....	57 ".....	52 " "
1895.....	58 ".....	62 " "
1895.....	59 ".....	51 " "
1896.....	60 ".....	47 " "

Total.....333 (six sessions)

LIBERAL REGIME

1910.....	1 George V.....	84 private bills
1911.....	1 ".....	89 " "
1912.....	2 ".....	96 " "
1913.....	3 ".....	82 " "
1914.....	4 ".....	100 " "
1915.....	5 ".....	89 " "

Total.....540 (six sessions)

Thus, notwithstanding the considerable increase in the population, notwithstanding especially the prodigious increase of business in this Province within the last fifteen years, private legislation, for the last six years, has not increased in extraordinary proportion over that passed by the Conservatives from 1891 to 1897.

It is not only at Quebec, however, that private bills have a tendency to increase.

All the parliaments of the Dominion have been forced, in these latter years, to give a greater place to private legislation at each of their sessions. The matter is easily explained. Our country has developed with marvelous rapidity, it is still in full transformation, and it is not surprising that the general laws suffer exceptions more frequently than formerly.

Is private legislation a good or an evil?

Mr. Cousineau and his friends pretend that it is an evil, but some men who formerly had a certain influence over the destiny of the Conservative party have maintained the contrary.

In 1881, Sir Adolphe Chapleau was the Prime Minister of the Province. At the session which opened on the 28th of April of the same year, the Chapleau Government called upon

the Lieutenant Governor to read a speech from the throne containing the following passage:

The large number of private bills to be submitted to you is a proof of business prosperity and of the spirit of enterprise which reigns in our Province, Industry, Manufactures and Navigation and Railway Companies will by this legislation secure advantages which will be a source of gratification to all.

In the address in answer to the speech from the throne by the Government we find the following:

"With Your Honor, we see with pleasure in the large number of Private Bills to be submitted to us, a proof of business prosperity and of the spirit of enterprise which reigns in our Province; that Industry, Manufactures, Navigation and railway companies, will by this legislation secure advantages which will be a source of gratification to all.

Who must we believe? Mr. Chapleau who pretends that private bills are a proof of the business prosperity of the country or Mr. Cousineau who maintains that they are a disgrace to legislation. We do not like to hurt Mr. Cousineau, but we must admit that Chapleau's mantle is too large for his shoulders.

The Conservatives may perhaps say:

The private bills mentioned in the speech from the throne of 1881 were only for the incorporation of railway, navigation and like companies.

Not at all. Here are a few laws adopted at that session and which form part of the Statute 44-45 Victoria.

Act to authorize Francois Daigle and Alexis Dufresne to levy tolls on a bridge over the north branch of the River Yamaska.

An act to authorize Francois Gosselin, of the parish of Ste. Claire, to levy tolls on a bridge over the Chaudiere River, between the parishes of Ste. Marie, county of Beauce and St. Bernard, county of Dorchester and for other purposes.

An act to authorize the Bar of the Province of Quebec to admit Joseph Eugene Lepine among its members.

And there are still many others.

To-day the Liberals abolish tolls, at that time the Conservatives created them.

Other times, other administrators and other ways to manage public affairs.

THE BORDEAUX PRISON

To put the public on a wrong scent, without doubt, the diminutive Conservative Opposition of Quebec, led by Mr. Cousineau, the incessant blunderer, has made a loud noise about the Bordeaux prison, in want of something better, to divert public attention from what is happening at Ottawa where their friends are in such a bad position.

Their charges may be summed up as follows: 1. The Province of Quebec has lost \$1,000,000 in the contracts given for the erection of the Bordeaux Jail. 2. The work is defective.

These charges are easily answered.

Three contracts were successively let out by the Government for the building of this prison, the first amounting to \$790,000.00 the second to \$810,000.00 and the third \$884,722.00. The Government has never declared that this prison could be built for \$750,000.00, for only three wings, the administration building and guard room were mentioned in the first contract for \$790,000.00 the other three wings, protection wall, drainage, waterworks and power house being left out.

It was soon realized that the first contract was not sufficient to construct a prison of suitable dimensions to meet the ever increasing needs of Montreal and consequently the second contract was awarded.

These two contracts would have been sufficient for a few years, but on the reports of the Governor, Mr. Vallee, and of the prison inspectors the Government decided to complete the jail without delay and that is the reason why the third contract of \$884,722.00 was given.

All those contracts, the first of which dates 9 years back, were submitted to the House, discussed and approved. for in 1912, Mr. Cousineau moved a vote of censure against the Government relating to these contracts which were then discussed, examined and approved by the House. Mr. Cousineau pretends that this prison costs the Government in round figures, \$3,600,000.00, that the contracts only amounted to \$2,500,000.00 and that consequently \$1,100,000 in extras was given out without tenders.

It is only necessary to glance over the accounts which were produced to see the bad faith in which these assertions are made. He forgets that this sum of \$1,100,000 is made up of the following items: \$120,000 for architects, as provided in the contracts, \$30,000 for land purchased over twenty years ago, \$7,350.00 for changing brick on the recommendation of the architects, \$155,489.22 for foundations as per unit price of contracts for which tenders were received, \$120,803.25 for surrounding wall and foundations thereof as provided by contracts for which tenders were also received, \$73,183.29 for sewers, drainage and waterworks, on the order of the Board of Health of the Province of Quebec, \$31,989.50 for a cess-pool, the Board of Health having strictly prohibited the discharge of the jail sewers in Des Prairies river without disinfection, \$11,996.40 for interior electric fixtures, \$3,995.00 for interior telephone system, \$11,206.00 for kitchen equipment, \$66,723.36 for heating and ventilation, \$9,605 for Blacklock Watch System, \$7,847.99 for coal, \$16,936.31 for the purchase of tramway, \$5,555.00 for dynames, \$1,000 to Governor Vallee for report, \$10,875.00 enlargement of cesspool, \$5,127.95 for additional foundation work on the service building, \$3,380.11 for filtration pipes, \$14,338.96 for roofing wings A. E. F. not included in the contract, \$9,121.75 for separate locks for each cell bought on the recommendation of the Governor \$12,500.00 for the purchase of property for Governor \$6,052.83 balance due to architects, \$2,575.00 for lightning rods, \$101,884.53 for extras and finally \$307,023.73 for works executed on the express demand of the Governor of the prison, who, after taking possession of the building suggested modifications, of which experience alone showed the necessity. It is then absolutely false to pretend that unauthorized and unforeseen works of a total cost of \$1,146,360.00 were executed.

It is alleged that the cost of this prison is too high, but it is sufficient to ascertain the costs of prisons in other countries to show that the cost of Bordeaux prison is not out of all proportion.

The Fresnes prison, France, costs \$4,000,000.00; that of Nantes, \$4,400,000.00, that of Still Water, \$2,500,000.00; that of Joliette \$2,000,000, that of Brooklyn, \$5,000,000, that of Blackwell Island, \$3,000,000, that of Learnworth, \$3,000,000.00 and that of La Seine, in France, \$2,800,000.00, not including

its furnishings and workshops. Another argument employed by Conservatives is this one:—The Bordeaux prison presently harbors only 600 prisoners, therefore the construction costs an average of \$6,000 per each prisoner.

An absurd statement.

The Government finding the Montreal prison inadequate decided to construct a new one, and, naturally, it was built, not for the present number of prisoners, but in provision of what that number may be fifty years hence. They built for the future.

It is thus ridiculously absurd to establish a proportion between the present number of prisoners and the cost of the building.

Another absurd argument, no less ridiculous, is to compare the lodging of prisoners to that of honest people for whom a shelter from cold, rain or snow is sufficient. To lodge prisoners, it is necessary to have solid constructions, which they cannot bore through or demolish, thick walls, not only to keep out snow or rain, but to prevent their escape, doors and windows with steel grates and solid locks.

It is also necessary to house the prison guards and officers, to give to all that population a place of worship, workshops, etc.

What proofs have the Conservatives brought forward to show that the construction of the prison was defective? They have nothing except affidavits from a few dismissed and dissatisfied guards.

At the last session, Mr. Cousineau and his friends tried to have refused an inquiry on the construction of that prison, so as to be able, later on, to cry out scandal, robbery and injustice. But when an inquiry was explicitly offered them by the Prime Minister they changed their tune and their demand was changed into a motion of non-confidence. That motion contains all the allegations of the affidavits, which we have just mentioned.

Here are a few taken at random:

In the spring water comes in through the concrete foundation in the basement and the prisoners are made to sponge out the floor. The heating system does not always give satisfaction and extra blankets had to be given to prisoners.

The jailer allowed the wife of a prisoner to visit her husband in his cell to the great scandal of all other prisoners.

Many bags of flour are stored in the hay loft and in the coal cellar and the rats of the prison are very fat.

The system for locking the cells makes much noise. The grinding of the doors when opened or shut is easily heard at a distance of three hundred feet. The prisoners and guards who hear this noise for the first time are rendered nervous and cannot help thinking of their last moments.

The jailer had his automobile repaired at the machine shop.

The motion contains about sixty allegations of a like value. What a scandal it is, in truth, to know that prisoners are made to think of their last moments, that their nervous system is affected because no rubber has been put on the rims of the door.

Is it not terrible to hear that there are rats in the Government prison and that they have the audacity to eat the government flour, purchased to make bread for the prisoners ;

These rats must be oppositionists, *blue* rats. They are worthy to serve under the leadership of Mr. Cousineau. What must surprise us most? The audacity of the rats or that of the leader of opposition who did not hesitate to present such a grotesque motion and couched in such ridiculous terms.

Is it necessary to recall before ending this chapter already too long that the cost of this prison will be paid not by the Province but by the judicial district of Montreal. It is the building and jury fund of that district which provides for the gradual extinction of that amount.

The Government has paid the whole cost of that prison out of its surpluses without borrowing a copper. It will be fully reimbursed by the district of Montreal.

THE MOUSSEAU AFFAIR

To what it reduces itself, its real proportions.
A Montreal financier, Mr. Lorne McGibbon, had a quarrel with his former associates the directors of the "Montreal

Street Railway." As it was then rumored that the latter company was to apply to the Legislature for a renewal of its franchises, Mr. McGibbon offered to supply Mr. Beck, a newspaperman of Montreal, with the necessary money to make the renewal of the franchises miscarry by setting a trap for the Members of the Legislature,

Mr. Beck, who was carrying on a personal campaign in the Montreal press against the Street Railway for several months, accepted Mr. McGibbon's proposition. He applied to the Burns detective agency to look after the matter and gave orders not to spare anything to bring it to a successful issue.

We know what followed: the rumor respecting the Montreal Street Railway was false, but since the financial purpose in view failed miserably, a political purpose was sought. It was then resolved to present a tempting bait to the Government Members, to cause the downfall of as many of them as possible, by all means, fair or foul, and to thus discredit the members of the Liberal party.

The American detectives passed themselves off as rich financiers desirous of investing large sums in property by organizing and controlling agricultural and industrial expositions. They decided to present a bill to the Legislature at the next session to be granted the rights and privileges which they pretended to require.

They intrusted Mr. Labelle, advocate, a Conservative of Montreal, and Mr. Mousseau advocate and Member for Soulanges, to prepare a draft of bill for such purpose. Mr. Mousseau was then asked to defend the bill before the House and to look after the phases of the proceedings by which it was to pass.

Up to now we may say that there was nothing irregular. The Bill as it was accepted by the Committee of the House contained no exorbitant clause, as certain people have pretended. On the contrary it contained neither more or less rights, neither more or less privileges than contained in the Act 55 and 56 Victoria, ch. 74, a law that was passed by the Conservatives in 1892, and which incorporated under the name of "The Quebec Exhibition Company" the Honorable Messrs. Ph. Landry, John Hearn, Thomas Chapais and others.

To attain their purpose and be well entitled to the money promised them, the American detectives resorted to the most shameful deceit, and the most odious and infamous endeavors.

They employed all the refinements of their art with a total absence of any moral sense: fine dinners, automobile drives, insidious conversations, marks of the most sincere friendship, presents, promises, nothing whatever was neglected.

Also, perfidiously, to deceive the good faith and then sully the reputation of someone, the ruin of three honored and respected men, heads of most respectable families, was planned.

It would assuredly have been more worthy on the part of the Tory financier to have employed his \$50,000.00 in helping the miseries that the crisis and the war have caused in this country. Spending a fortune and only putting three adversaries hors de combat, is a sorry achievement for Mr. McGibbon and a eulogy in favor of the Liberal deputation. If Legislative Councillors and Deputies are held, in virtue of their mandate, to legislate without remuneration and without hope of remuneration, what is then the fault of him who carries on the odious trade of corrupter and of tempter?

When we see the cases of rapine without number that have been committed by the Conservatives of Ottawa from the beginning of the war, we are tempted to excuse the victims of Mr. McGibbon.

These have at least for excuse to have accepted only the money of a too rich financier and to have not received a single copper of the public money. They have also for excuse to have succumbed only after repeated entreaties and not to have fattened their pocketbooks at the expense of our unfortunate soldiers, as in the case of Foster, Garland, Allison and many others.

There is no need of detectaphones or of detectives to cause the downfall of the Conservatives. See them at Ottawa: They rush upon the quarry; they pillage they rob without incitement, almost naturally!

The Government has been reproached for not having granted a complete inquiry. This is false. The inquiry was as complete as it could be.

Let it be well noted, accusations were only brought against three members of Parliament, only one of which belonged to the Legislative Assembly. To be convinced of this reference may be made to pages 361 and following of the Journals of 1914. Mr. Laverne and Mr. Prevost at five or six different times, and under different forms, asked Messrs. McNab and Nichols the following question: "How many members of this House do you incriminate, and who are they?"

The reply was invariably the same.

"We have replied that there was only one member of this House, M. Mousseau."

Mr. Marechal admitted the same thing (page 400 of the Report of the Special Committee).

As has been stated by the member for Montmagny there are two parties in this cause, but I am here only to answer to the charge of having published false accusations against a member of this House. I believe I have answered this accusation as much as it was in my power to do so. In all cases, this member excepted, I have no proofs to offer. This is what I declare.

The commission has thus taken cognizance of all the facts relating to these accusations. The testimony of no one was refused. Three physicians, one of which was chosen by the Opposition, were sent to ascertain the state of Mr. Mousseau's health, and to find out if he was in a state to appear before the Commission. Unanimously the physicians declared it to be impossible.

The following year when Mr. Mousseau had fully regained his health endangered by grief the Opposition asked for the re-opening of the inquiry so as to call him as a witness.

The Government rightfully refused this inquiry. Mr. Mousseau was no longer a member of Parliament, he was no longer answerable to the House. If the Conservatives think that his punishment was not proportionate to the fault committed by him, let them take criminal proceedings before a Court of Assize. They will do nothing of the kind. They have every interest to protect, those of their friends who devised this plot,

for, if Mr. Mousseau is guilty under the criminal code, his tempters are equally so. All honest people in the province have stigmatized the conduct of the free booters who have tried to introduce here, the means of corruption and disgusting morals which the Americans have permitted to permeate the politics of their country.

Mr. McGibbon and all his associates have derived but little joy from this regretful plot against the Liberal party.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGES
<i>Abbreviations</i>	2
<i>Reasons for dissolution</i>	3
<i>The Question before the electors</i>	4
<i>The Leaders of both parties</i>	5
Mr. Philemon Cousineau.....	5
Sir Lomer Gouin.....	6
<i>The program of the Conservative Governments</i>	8
Their promises.....	8
<i>The programme of the Gouin Government</i>	9
Testimonials of approval.....	10
<i>Financial Equilibrium</i>	11
Surplus from 1905 to 1915.....	11
Deficits 1897.....	13
<i>The Public Debt</i>	15
Excess of Liabilities in 1891, 1897, 1905 and 1915.....	15
Railways Subsidies paid.....	18
Taxes collected 1891 to 1897.....	19
Mr. Hall's statement.....	19
Indirect obligations.....	22
Consolidated Debt in 1891, 1897, 1905 and 1915.....	24
Annual interest payable in 1891, 1897, 1905 and 1915.....	24
<i>Loans</i>	25
Loans contracted from 1892 to 1897.....	25
Reimbursement of loans since 1905.....	28
Loans relating to Good Roads.....	28
<i>Financial operations from 1905 to 1915</i>	31

	PAGES
<i>Taxes</i>	
Revenue of the taxes imposed in 1892.....	35
Mr. Marchand's program.....	35
Contributions to Asylums, Reformatory and Industrial Schools.....	36
Succession Duties.....	37
The law and its modifications.....	38
The Tax on Commercial Corporations.....	38
The modification of 1912.....	44
The increase of corporations.....	46
The tax on stock operations.....	47
Automobile licenses.....	47
Licenses for public laundries.....	48
Permits to Private Detectives.....	48
Board of Censors.....	49
Licenses on automatic distributors.....	49
Licenses for the sale of spirituous and Temperance Liquor.....	50
Diminution of licenses and observances of the law.....	51
Revenue from liquor licenses.....	52
	53
<i>Economy in expenditure</i>	54
Expenditure per head in 1897 and 1915.....	54
<i>Increase of revenue</i>	
Custom of Mr. Hackett in 1897.....	55
Ordinary Revenue in 1897, 1905 and 1915.....	55
Revenue from Public Domain 1897 and 1915.....	56
Fish and Game.....	56
Mines.....	57
Lands and Forests.....	57
Revenue from the whole public domain.....	57
Readjustment of the Federal subsidy.....	57
Work of the Liberals.....	57
Mr. Gouin organizer of the victory.....	58
Effect of the readjustment.....	59
	61
<i>Public Instruction</i>	
Total grants increased.....	63
Grants to primary schools increased.....	63
Increase of teachers' salaries.....	64
Bonuses to teachers.....	65
Increased contributions to teachers' pension fund.....	66
Increased grants to Elementary Schools.....	66
Increased grants to Model Schools and Academies.....	67
Special Grants to boys Model Schools or Academies.....	67
Aid to Poor Schools increased.....	67
Bonuses to the most deserving municipalities.....	68
	68

	PAGES
School inspection.....	69
Foundation of Normal Schools.....	69
Encouragement for the establishing of Boys' Commercial Academies.....	71
Free distribution of class books, prize books, maps, etc.....	71
Amount of grant for each scholar.....	72
Night schools.....	72
Dress cutting and sewing schools.....	73
School of Arts and Manufactures.....	73
Results of the policy of the Government regarding Public Instruction.....	73
Universities.....	76
School of Surveying, Quebec.....	77
Montreal Polytechnic school.....	77
Technical schools.....	77
Their organization and cost.....	79
Total grants to technical schools.....	82
School for Higher Commercial Studies.....	82
Its affiliation with Laval University.....	83
Other special schools.....	83
Agriculture.....	84
Comparison of total expenditure.....	84
Agricultural societies and Farmers Clubs.....	85
Comparison of grants.....	85
New advantages offered Farmers' Clubs.....	86
Loans to encourage purchase of thoroughbred animals.....	86
Agricultural education.....	87
Horticulture in the schools.....	87
Housekeeping schools, their development.....	87
District agronomists.....	87
Bacon Industry.....	88
Short courses of agriculture.....	88
Sugary schools.....	88
Agricultural schools.....	89
Number of students.....	89
Dairy School.....	90
Agricultural co-operations.—Its progress.....	90
The Cheesemakers' Cooperative Association.....	90
Encouragement of the Dairy industry.....	91
Grants given to this industry.....	91
Inspection of factories.....	92
Reasons why inspectors appointed by the Government.....	92
Drainage.....	93
Improvement of swine and sheep.....	93
Aviculture.....	94
Cultivation of clover.....	94
Apiculture.....	94

	PAGES
Fruit growing.....	95
Summary of the work accomplished by the Liberals for Agriculture.....	95
Journal of Agriculture.—Reply to critics.....	98
Agricultural results.....	100
Quebec and Ontario—Some comparisons.....	101
<i>Improvement of Roads</i>	105
Importance of the question.....	105
Encouragement given since 1892.....	106
History of the Good Roads Act.....	106
The advantages of the law of 1911.....	107
The act of 1912.....	109
Its advantages.....	109
How it is appreciated.....	111
Creation of the Roads Department.....	111
Courses on better roads.....	112
Equipment.....	112
Provincial Highways.....	113
Edward VII Road.....	113
Other Provincial Roads.....	114
Projected highways.....	114
Result of the Roads policy.....	114
Number of miles of road systematically maintained.....	114
Number of miles of gravel roads.....	115
Number of miles of macadamized roads.....	115
Culverts.....	115
Replies to some criticisms.....	115
The Federal Government and the Roads.....	116
Parts of Roads.....	117
The slowness of road works.....	118
Cost of Provincial Roads.....	119
Inspections.....	120
Maintenance of provincial Roads.....	121
Regarding an inquiry.....	121
A few testimonials.....	123
<i>Iron bridges</i>	124
Statement of appropriations since 1908.....	125
Number of bridges subsidized and their cost.....	125
<i>The abolition of Tolls</i>	125
List of toll roads and bridges freed since 1908.....	126
<i>Administration of Lands and Forests and Colonization</i>	128
Area of lands.....	128
Annexation of Ungava.....	128
Reorganization of the Department of Lands.....	129

	PAGES
Revenue from woods and forests 1897, 1911, 1914-15.....	129
Increase of stumpage dues.....	129
School of forestry and forestry service.....	130
Different testimonials.....	130
Protection of forests against fire.....	131
Different testimonials.....	131
Water powers and control of running waters.....	133
The damming of the St. Maurice.....	135
Forest reserves.....	136
Township forest reserves.....	137
Prohibition to export timber cut on the crown lands.....	137
Result.....	138
Berthier nursery and reforestation.....	138
Sale of lands f. for settlement.....	139
The Lands Act of 1909, its object.....	139
Lots conceded.....	141
Number of lots conceded.....	141
Area of conceded lots.....	141
Comparison of Letters Patent granted for sale of lots.....	141
Cancellations.....	141
Ontario Lands Act.....	142
The Conservatives and the Settlers.....	142
Colonization Roads.....	143
Amount expended.....	143
Amount spent in each County during last ten years.....	144
Abitibi.....	145
Increase in its population.....	145
Colonization Roads and Bridges in Abitibi.....	145
Sale of lots and clearing.....	146
The Transcontinental.—Inaction of Conservatives.....	146
Temiscamingue.....	146
The progress of Colonization and Agriculture.....	147
Increase of the population in Quebec, by County.....	148
Increase of the rural population in Quebec and Ontario... ..	149
Some opinions by Conservative newspapers.....	150
Exodus towards the cities.....	151
What they said in 1893.....	152
What they say in Ontario.....	152
<i>For the Workman</i>	153
<i>Other Works and Reforms</i>	155
<i>Replies to critics</i>	
The inspection of butter and cheese factories, License im- posed by Government.....	92
The journal of Agriculture.....	98
The damming of the St. Maurice River.....	135
Private Bills.....	157
The Bordeaux Gaol.....	160
The Mousseau affair.....	163